

June 11, 2019

Ohio Senate Finance Committee
The Ohio Statehouse
1 Capital Square
Columbus, OH 43215

Re: Written Testimony in Support of the Ohio Aviation Association's amendments to H.B. 166

Dear Members of the Ohio Senate Finance Committee,

I am writing in support of the three amendments the Ohio Aviation Association has placed before your Committee: 1) Increased funding to the Ohio Airport Grant Program from \$5.9 to \$16 Million, 2) the creation of an Air Service Development Grant Fund in the amount of \$15 million, and, lastly, 3) the creation of an Aviation Student Loan Program.

Each of the amendments advances the aviation infrastructure and economic development of the State of Ohio and should be supported, but I wish to share how the Ohio Airport Grant Program has benefitted the Monroe County Airport.

The runway project was vital to the Monroe County Airport because of the influx of oil & gas traffic using the airport. In FY 2017 and 2018 we had fuel sales at our small airport of close to \$350,000. At the present time we have one company stationed at the Monroe County Airport that flies 7 helicopters to support the oil & gas industry and 6 other helicopter companies that fly in on a regular basis for fuel and to pick up and drop off clients that are involved in the oil & gas industry. The runway project is also beneficial to the 12 stationery customers we have that rent hangars and fly in and out.

The matching funds the Monroe County Airport has received for our runway rehab project has been very much needed and appreciated. Without these funds we would not have been able to have this work done, due to the financial situation of our county.

Once the runway rehab project is completed, we are hoping to receive funds to replace our aging runway lights that were installed in the 90's.

Thank you for your consideration of these important amendments.

Sincerely,

David Dalrymple

Manager, Monroe County Airport