

***“That we, the members of the Senate of the Eighty-third Legislative Assembly, recognize the important role of Aurora State Airport in the State of Oregon’s emergency preparedness and response efforts...”***

I support this statement and I believe that this airport is a logical strategic emergency response management facility, especially for helicopter response.

I do have concerns about the intent of some of the “Whereas” statements in SR2. While the carrier of the bill emphasized that this is **not** about land use decisions, this airport has a long history of regional disagreements. As such, Senate Resolution 2 should be understood in the context of funding decisions, political dynamics, and economic opportunities.

In voting for this resolution, I hope people do not interpret that as support of expansion at this time. Great care, thorough process, community engagement, and detailed analysis would be necessary before any further extension or expansion of the runway and an upstanding process could determine the best route for the airport’s future.

As the Charbonneau Country Club testimony highlights, the Aurora State Airport has “three small drain fields, limited fresh water supply, no fire suppression, limited fire fighting capacity, no security, minimum advanced communications equipment, and inadequate property for staging an emergency management response.” I share their statement that this facility has more value as a general aviation, flight training, and emergency response airport than for executive jets.

I believe that any public investment in this facility should prioritize public benefit.