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Support SB272 – Airport Improvement Program Funding

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) is the world's largest aviation advocacy organization, representing 300,000 members, including over 3,000 in Kansas. On their behalf, we ask for your **support of Senate Bill 272**.

Senate Bill 272 aims to increase airport improvement funding to \$15M annually. Since 2013, the state has provided \$5M yearly for airport improvement projects, but inflation has dramatically reduced the effectiveness of those dollars in properly maintaining Kansas airports.

Each year, KDOT Aviation receives over \$30M in grant applications for airport maintenance and improvement projects. In 2023, KDOT commissioned an updated [KDOT Airport Facilities Inventory](#) report, the results of which revealed an unmet need of \$75M annually over the next decade.

Senate Bill 272 is an important infrastructure bill that will help communities across the state meet the most critical of those needs by...

- beginning to address immediate runway and airport safety projects across the state
- ensuring that Kansans have an air-ambulance-capable airport within a short drive
- provide communities the added benefit of enhanced economic development opportunities made possible by a well-maintained local airport

AOPA and our Kansas members would greatly appreciate your **support of SB272**.

Respectfully,

Tom Chandler
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