

March 7, 2024

Representative Shannon Francis
Chair
House Committee on Transportation
Kansas State Capitol
300 SW 10th St.
Topeka, KS 66612

Re: Senate Bill 272

Dear Chairman and Esteemed Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Shalz Field, I wish to express our highest support for SB 272 to increase the transfer from the state highway fund to the public use general aviation development fund.

Shalz Field is honored to represent the interests of the aviation community in Kansas, particularly as SB 272 holds significant importance for our state's airport infrastructure. We recognize the vital role that Kansas airports play in facilitating commerce, tourism, and transportation, and thus, we fully support initiatives aimed at enhancing our aviation facilities.

SB 272 addresses the critical need for increased funding for the Kansas Airport Improvement Program (KAIP), an initiative that is indispensable for the maintenance and rehabilitation of airport infrastructure across the state. The Salina Airport Authority believes that the proposed elevation of funding to \$15 million annually, as advocated by the Kansas Association of Airports (KAA), is essential for ensuring the longevity and efficiency of Kansas airports.


We commend the collaborative efforts between KAA and KDOT Aviation in advocating for SB 272, as well as the comprehensive research conducted to highlight the urgent need for increased funding. The Salina Airport Authority pledges its full support to this endeavor and urges the committee to consider the long-term benefits that SB 272 will bring to the Kansas aviation sector.

Shalz Field is committed to working alongside the committee and other stakeholders to strengthen our state's airport infrastructure. We are confident that SB 272 will pave the way for continued growth and prosperity within the Kansas aviation community.

Thank you for considering our perspective, and we respectfully urge the committee's support of SB 272.

Sincerely,

Shalz, Field, Colby KS


Mark Ostmeyer
Manager