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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,

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