
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8013

State of Washington 65th Legislature 2017 3rd Special Session

By Senators Warnick, Honeyford, Keiser, King, Chase, Hasegawa, Short, Becker, Schoesler, Hobbs, and Billig

1 TO THE HONORABLE DONALD J. TRUMP, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES,
2 AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
3 REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO MICHAEL HUERTA,
5 ADMINISTRATOR OF THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION:

6 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
7 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled,
8 respectfully represent and petition as follows:

9 WHEREAS, The Grant County International Airport (MWH) has one of
10 the largest runways in North America that can meet the needs of the
11 largest aircraft in the world; and

12 WHEREAS, The five runways at MWH serve the unique needs of the
13 military and aerospace sector from across the nation for military
14 training, aircraft testing, aircraft certification, pilot training,
15 and emergency preparedness; and

16 WHEREAS, The five runways at MWH are often being used by aircraft
17 with specific needs at the same time; and

18 WHEREAS, The Grant County International Airport provides war
19 readiness training facilities for all branches of the United States
20 Military in Washington State; and

21 WHEREAS, The Grant County International Airport serves as the
22 ready reserve base for Fairchild Air Force Base; and

1 WHEREAS, The assault runway at MWH is a critical training ground
2 for the United States Air Force, the United States Navy, and the Air
3 National Guard; and

4 WHEREAS, The Grant County International Airport serves the United
5 States Forest Service and Washington State Department of Natural
6 Resources with aerial wildfire training infrastructure and facilities
7 for staging and deploying aerial wildfire tankers; and

8 WHEREAS, The Grant County International Airport continues to be a
9 favored location for aircraft certification and testing by the Boeing
10 Company, Mitsubishi Aircraft, the United States Military, and other
11 aerospace sectors; and

12 WHEREAS, Aircraft certification and testing entails rejected
13 take-off situations, simulated equipment failures, touch and go
14 landings, full stop and goes, and other aerial maneuvers that cannot
15 be accomplished at other airports; and

16 WHEREAS, The Grant County International Airport supports the
17 future of aviation by partnering with Big Bend Community College to
18 train and educate pilots and aviation technicians; and

19 WHEREAS, The MWH is utilized by flight schools from Eastern
20 Washington to conduct instrument approaches and pattern work and
21 advanced professional pilot training; and

22 WHEREAS, Meeting these unique and variable functions for the
23 aerospace sector, the United States Military, the United States
24 Forest Service, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources,
25 and flight schools requires on-site Terminal Radar Approach Control
26 (TRACON) facilities at the Grant County International Airport; and

27 WHEREAS, The Federal Aviation Administration is required to
28 periodically review potential realignment and consolidation of TRACON
29 facilities; and

30 WHEREAS, The Federal Aviation Administration is reviewing
31 potential realignment of the TRACON facilities at the Grant County
32 International Airport; and

33 WHEREAS, More than twenty-six letters opposing consolidation of
34 Grant County International Airport TRACON facilities with Spokane
35 have been sent from Members of Congress, the Governor of Washington
36 State, military leaders in Washington State, aerospace businesses,
37 and local groups;

38 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that:

39 (1) The Federal Aviation Administration keep intact the TRACON
40 facilities at the Grant County International Airport so that MWH can

1 continue to serve national security training needs for the United
2 States Military, emergency preparedness in Washington State, aircraft
3 testing and certification, and pilot training;

4 (2) Members of Washington's Congressional Delegation work
5 together to make permanent the TRACON facilities at Grant County
6 International Airport.

7 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
8 transmitted to the Honorable Donald J. Trump, President of the United
9 States, Michael Huerta, Administrator of the Federal Aviation
10 Administration, the President of the United States Senate, the
11 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each member of Congress
12 from the State of Washington.

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