



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND EASTERN SHORE
Office of the President

January 16, 2020

Ways and Means Committee
House Office Building, Room 131
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis MD 21401

RE: House Bill 16

Dear Madam Chair Kaiser and Committee Members:

I am writing to express support for House Bill 16, which would exempt parts and components installed on aircraft from state sales and use taxes.

The Aviation Sciences program at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore (UMES) is embarking on several initiatives with the Salisbury Regional Airport (SBY). The most ambitious project would be partnering with other educational providers to create a pathway for aircraft mechanics, which could go all the way through a Bachelor's Degree here at UMES. A key component of that pathway would be the provision of apprenticeships at SBY and increasing the number of companies undertaking aircraft maintenance would be essential for those apprenticeships. Our industry advisors have indicated that this legislation would be helpful in the expansion of maintenance work at SBY, which in turn would support maintenance training. More generally, increasing business activity in the aviation industry in the State of Maryland will support the educational programs in Aviation Sciences at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Heidi M. Anderson, PhD, FAPhA
President