



Maryland Senate Budget and Taxation Committee
c/o Senator Guy Guzzone and Senator Jim Rosapepe
3 West, Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

February 5, 2024

Dear Chair Guzzone & Vice Chair Rosapepe,

I respectfully write to the Committee today and its members for a favorable report for MD 2024 SB 0574 - HB 0557 Sales Tax Exemption - Aircraft Parts and Equipment - Repeal of Reporting Requirement and Sunset.

One of Wicomico County's and the Lower Eastern Shore's greatest economic assets is the Salisbury-Ocean City: Wicomico Regional Airport (SBY). Scheduled airline service is provided by Piedmont Airlines to Philadelphia and Charlotte and SBY overall has an economic impact to our region exceeding \$150 million annually. We're investing \$3 million at SBY to establish an Aviation Maintenance Technician school to train Airframe and Powerplant (A&P) mechanics for the aviation and aeronautical industry. Our first graduates are anticipated in 2025, just as the Sales & Use Tax Exemption is set to sunset.

Repealing this sunset allows SBY and our region to better compete for aviation and aeronautical jobs, grow general aviation activities at SBY and create great jobs for residents throughout our region.

Your favorable report of SB-0574 and HB-0557 is valued and appreciated. Thank you.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DJ Ryan', is written over a faint, light-colored background.

David J. Ryan
Executive Director