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**Phil Boyer**  
President

June 14, 2007

The Honorable Rick Perry  
Office of the Governor  
State of Texas  
P.O. Box 12428  
Austin, Texas 78711-2428

**Re: Request for signature on HB3440**

Dear Governor Perry:

As President of the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), I represent the general aviation interests of more than 412,000 pilots nationwide – including 28,635 in Texas –and I am writing to urge you to sign House Bill 3440. This legislation clarifies the definition of a project relating to airports under the Development Corporation Act of 1979 (Article 5190.6, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes).

House Bill 3440 clarifies and broadens the definition of transportation facilities to include a variety of structures necessary to airports, including development of new hangars and maintenance facilities. In enacting this change, the legislature broadened the definition of airports and removed any doubt that development corporations formed, by cities under the auspices of landmark 1979 Act, are able to include all of the essential components of an airport's infrastructure. This vital clarification would keep Texas at the forefront of modern aviation by giving economic development corporations the proper tools to promote and protect community airports in their city.

As you look to the future, I encourage you to take this and other opportunities to explore the many economic development advantages that general aviation airports provide throughout Texas. As you know, these community airports play a vital role in the economy of our nation as a whole, and Texas in particular.

AOPA members and I appreciate your consideration of this important legislation and I hope that you will sign House Bill 3440. Should you have any questions or require additional information from AOPA, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Phil Boyer