

[MONTH, DAY, YEAR]

[SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE] [FULL NAME]  
900 Court Street NE  
[SUITE NUMBER, BEGINNING WITH "S" or "H"]  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear [SENATOR/REPRESENTATIVE] [LAST NAME],

As one of your constituents living in [CITY], I am writing to you to express my strong opposition to Senate Bill 71. This bill purports to limit the use of "drones," but would in fact criminalize recreational activities enjoyed by many Oregonians, from dedicated hobbyists to children who have done nothing wrong, except for receiving a gift that their parents purchased at a local mall.

This bill defines the word "drone" so broadly that it could potentially ban all radio-controlled aircraft. The hobby industry generates \$1.5 billion annually and supports many local businesses right here in Oregon, and this proposal would eliminate one of its fastest-growing segments.

Senate Bill 71 makes no allowance for people who legally possess these systems already. Upon being signed into law by the governor, it would immediately make criminals of these hobbyists, because there mere possession of a radio-controlled "drone" is a Class B Misdemeanor. This is plainly a violation of their constitutional right to due process, as well as a violation of their basic property rights.

Furthermore, passage of this bill would be damaging to Oregon's broader economy. Boeing subsidiary Insitu, located in Hood River, is a leading manufacturer of drone aircraft for the United States military. With their product transformed into contraband overnight, they would no doubt be forced to shut down or relocate to another state.

At the same time, business and community leaders around Bend are working hard to win approval from the Federal Aviation Administration for Oregon to serve as one of six test sites for new drone aircraft, prior to their integration into the National Air Space in 2015. If successful, this effort could secure a foothold for our state in what will be a major industry for the next several decades. Senate Bill 71 would completely undermine these efforts.

Oregon has always been a leader in technology. Our future lies in nurturing the high-tech pioneers who will create the jobs and industries of tomorrow. This bill turns its back on that proud history. It is anti-technology, anti-economic-growth and anti-rights. It has no place in Oregon law.

Sincerely,

[SIGN HERE]

[YOUR NAME]