



NATIONAL CONFERENCE of STATE LEGISLATURES

The Forum for America's Ideas

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Debbie Smith
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Nevada
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William T. Pound
Executive Director

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
United States House of Representatives
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C., 20515

The Honorable Peter DeFazio
Ranking Member
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
United States House of Representatives
2134 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C., 20515

The Honorable Frank LoBiondo
Chairman
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee,
Subcommittee on Aviation
United States House of Representatives
2427 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C., 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee,
Subcommittee on Aviation
United States House of Representatives
2113 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C., 20515

Re: Airport Infrastructure Funding and Financing

Dear Chairman Shuster, Representative DeFazio, Chairman LoBiondo and Representative Larsen,

On behalf of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), the bipartisan organization that serves all legislators and legislative staff of the nation's 50 states, its commonwealths and territories, we applaud the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for making the reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) a committee priority. We support expeditious action on this reauthorization to ensure that the negative effects caused by a short-term extension of critical programs are minimized. Aviation is a key component of a balanced transportation system and is vitally linked to regional growth and economic development efforts.

Within such important legislation, NCSL would urge the committee to ensure that airports have sufficient funding and financing options to meet their infrastructure needs. Commercial airports support more than 9.5 million jobs across all states and are essential in keeping our country globally viable in moving passengers and cargo, as well as stimulating economic development and tourism.

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To achieve this goal, NCSL believes Congress should raise the federal cap on the individual Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) user fee to restore its purchasing power and keep up with inflation. Such a change would help ensure that airport operators have sufficient funding to be competitive in a changing marketplace and implement needed safety, security, capacity and noise abatement projects at their airports.

Additionally, NCSL is a strong proponent of the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), and would urge Congress to ensure that states can use these funds for increased security measures required by federal law at a 100-percent federal share.

We would welcome the opportunity to further discuss our position on airport infrastructure funding and financing and hope the committee will take our attached policies into consideration as it works to reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration. Please contact Ben Husch (ben.husch@ncsl.org) or Melanie Condon (melanie.condon@ncsl.org) for any additional information.

Sincerely,



Senator Deb Peters
South Dakota Senate
Co-Chair, NCSL's Standing Committees



Representative Mary Jane Wallner
New Hampshire House of Representatives
Co-Chair, NCSL's Standing Committees

Attached:
[NCSL's Airport Infrastructure Funding Policy Resolution](#)
[NCSL's Aviation Policy Directive](#)