



April 24, 2018

The Honorable Pete Sessions
Chairman, Committee on Rules
U.S. House of Representatives
H-312, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Sessions:

As the House of Representatives prepares to consider H.R. 4, multi-year Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization legislation, we urge you to allow a vote on amendment #53, a bipartisan proposal from Reps. Thomas Massie (R-KY) and Peter DeFazio (D-OR) to eliminate federal intervention with local airport user fees known as Passenger Facility Charges (PFCs). If adopted, the Massie/DeFazio amendment would provide airports with the self-help they need to repair aging infrastructure, make needed investments in their facilities to accommodate increased passenger and cargo volume, and enhance air service competition for the benefit of the traveling public.

We appreciate calls from the administration and from some in Congress to increase infrastructure investment. Unfortunately, H.R. 4 as introduced falls short in addressing the long-term infrastructure needs of our aviation system by failing to update the outdated federal cap on the locally set PFC user fee last adjusted in 2000, and by reducing federal support for AIP from levels previously approved by the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, even though the annual AIP funding gap exceeds \$3 billion, according to the FAA.

It is clear that much more needs to be done to empower airports to meet significant annual infrastructure development needs of nearly \$20 billion and ensure that the legislation actually delivers on the promise of increasing aviation infrastructure investment. The Massie/DeFazio amendment would help accomplish those worthy goals and address the systemic funding problems that limit the ability of airports of all sizes to update their facilities to meet the needs of air passengers and local communities.

We appreciate your consideration of this request and again urge you and your colleagues on the Rules Committee to allow a vote on this critical amendment that would help modernize America's aging airport infrastructure. If Congress is serious about boosting infrastructure investment at airports, meeting the growing needs of our aviation system, and better serving the traveling public, it is critical that the Massie/DeFazio amendment receive an up-or-down vote.

Sincerely,

Todd Hauptli
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