

February 18, 2011 – Movement on FAA Reauthorization

Last night the Senate has passed its FAA reauthorization bill (S. 223) as amended. The vote on final passage was 87 to 8.

The Senate dealt with the following amendments to the bill:

- McCain #4 to repeal the Essential Air Service program was defeated by a motion to table the amendment, which was agreed to by a vote of 61-38.
- Paul #18 to strike the FAA-OSHM MOU language on flight attendant fatigue was defeated by a motion table the amendment, which was agreed to by a vote of 52-47.
- Ensign #32 relating to UAV standards was agreed to by unanimous consent, as modified by Brown #52.
- Reid #54 relating to noise buffering land purchases was to by unanimous consent.
- Udall #49 providing for a land transfer in Dona Ana County was agreed to by unanimous consent.
- Udall #51 mandating automatic target recognition software in airport imaging screening machines was agreed to by unanimous consent, as further modified.
- Coburn #80 limiting EAS subsidies to locations that are 100 or more miles away from the nearest medium or large hub airport was agreed to by unanimous consent after a motion to table failed by a vote of 34-65.
- Coburn #81 to limit EAS to locations that average 10 or more enplanements per day was was agreed to by a voice vote.
- Coburn #91 to decrease the maximum federal AIP cost share at certain airports failed when a motion to table the amendment was agreed to by a vote of 58-41.
- Schumer #71 to control helicopter noise pollution on Long Island was agreed to by voice vote.
- Leahy #50 to include nonprofit and volunteer ground and air ambulance crew members and first responders for certain benefits, and to clarify the liability protection for volunteer pilots that fly for public benefit) was agreed to by a voice vote.
- Rockefeller-Hutchison manager's amendment was agreed to by unanimous consent.