

KENNY MARCHANT
24TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
SELECT REVENUE MEASURES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT

May 22, 2014

The Honorable Jeh Johnson
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

The Honorable John S. Pistole
Administrator
Transportation Security Administration
601 South 12th Street
Arlington, VA 20598

Dear Secretary Johnson and Administrator Pistole:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed changes by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) that would result in significantly higher costs for the traveling public. These proposed fee increases would be in addition to the already scheduled new fee increases that will soon be experienced by passengers.

It is my understanding that TSA is seeking to make changes regarding the definition of a "roundtrip" and "stopover" that may result in increased fees for passengers. I am further concerned that TSA may be seeking to eliminate the current cap on overall fees per ticket. These changes would greatly add to the cost of commercial aviation tickets—making travel more expensive and reducing demand at a time when our domestic airline industry is attempting to recover from years of economic decline and losses. Cumulatively, these proposed fees could cost upwards of \$20 per ticket per passenger. Such a dramatic additional increase in TSA fees is completely unwarranted and would have negative consequences for our economy and the traveling public.

I am further disappointed by reports that TSA is proposing many of these changes under the guise of "Congressional intent." This is completely incorrect and should not be used as a justification for any of these proposed changes. Given these significant problems, I respectfully request that TSA withdraw their request to increase TSA fees.

Thank you for your attention to this letter and I look forward to receiving your prompt reply. Should you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please feel free to contact me, or my Legislative Director, Scott Cunningham, at 202.225.6605 or scott.cunningham@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,


Kenny Marchant
Member of Congress