

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 23, 2008

The Honorable Janet Napolitano  
Department of Homeland Security Secretary  
U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Madame Secretary,

We are writing to strongly encourage you to reconsider the Large Aircraft Security Program (LASP).

As you know, the general aviation industry is vital to the economic stability of Kansas and our nation. By employing over 1.2 million people and contributing more than \$150 billion to the U.S. economy, this industry is clearly a bright spot during the troubling economic times. However, general aviation is not immune to the pains of our current financial situation. Major manufacturers such as Cessna and Hawker Beechcraft have had to cut jobs recently because of a decline in new orders.

Unfortunately, the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) for the LASP puts this economic engine at further risk. We are concerned that adoption of many of the proposed measures by TSA would create significant operational burdens to many of America's businesses that rely on general aviation aircraft to do business across the state, country or world. Without changes to the current NPRM, the TSA proposal could make it nearly impossible for some aircraft to operate at all.

Eighty-five percent of business aviation is made up of small and mid-size businesses that are often located in smaller communities and rural areas. Many would be overwhelmed by costs associated with over burdensome regulatory requirements. Businesses large and small depend upon general aviation aircraft for timely, cost effective transportation. At the same time, general aviation users understand and appreciate the importance of protecting our homeland. It is in their best interests to provide safe and secure transportation services for their customers in cooperation with federal regulators. But in doing so, the federal government must recognize the inherent differences between security procedures designed for commercial aircraft and those necessary for general aircraft. Therefore, we request that TSA work closely with the general aviation industry as you craft security policies and procedures that affect these users.

We thank you for your leadership and for considering this urgent request.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sam Brownback". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "S" at the beginning.

Sam Brownback  
US Senator

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pat Roberts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "P" at the beginning.

Pat Roberts  
US Senator

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Todd Tiahrt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping "T" at the beginning.

Todd Tiahrt  
US Congressman