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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEES:

ARMED SERVICES

EDUCATION AND LABOR

March 3, 2009

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

Dear Secretary Napolitano:

I strongly encourage you to reconsider the proposed Large Aircraft Security Program (LASP) that was issued by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) October 30, 2008.

As you know, the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) would create additional security requirements for operators of general aviation aircraft weighing 12,500 pounds, approximately six seats on board and above. For the first time, this rule would apply commercial and charter air carrier security requirements to private aviation. Furthermore, this sweeping proposal would require more than 300 general aviation airports and 10,000 private aircraft operators to comply with requirements, many of which are costly and burdensome.

A number of my constituents who are members of the general aviation community have contacted me to express their concern that this proposed rule would have a detrimental impact on the general aviation industry as a whole. Businesses of all sizes depend on private aircraft for efficient transportation. Some businesses have estimated the rule will cost upwards of \$100,000 per aircraft per year, and others have indicated the rule would prevent them from operating aircraft at all.

Given these concerns, I ask the Department to work with the general aviation industry on requirements that would enhance general aviation security without excessively burdening operators and businesses.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my concerns about this rule. I look forward to working with you on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Kline".

JOHN KLINE
Member of Congress