



**AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS ASSOCIATION**

421 Aviation Way • Frederick, MD 21701-4798  
Telephone (301) 695-2000 • Fax (301) 695-2375  
www.aopa.org

---

March 8, 2007

Ms. LaVerne Reid, Manager  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Airports Division, ANE-600  
New England Regional Office  
12 New England Executive Park  
Burlington, MA 01803

Dear Ms. Reid:

On March 29, 2000, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), representing over 410,000 members nationwide, filed an informal complaint under FAR Part 13.1 with Mr. Vince Scarano in the New England Airports Division Office. In our complaint, we requested an investigation by the FAA's Airport's Division regarding fees being imposed by Massport for nighttime operations at Laurence G. Hanscom Field (BED).

Nearly seven years later, we have received no additional information from the agency on the status or outcome of our complaint. Additionally, our members continue to be subject to operational fees and economic disincentives in the conducting of flight operations at Hanscom Field.

AOPA continues to believe the nighttime fees imposed at Hanscom are unjustly discriminatory and not in accordance with well established FAA policies, procedures and regulations.

The Association has always been sensitive to noise concerns expressed by local communities near airports and we regularly encourage our members to fly friendly; taking whatever steps they can to minimize the impact of their aviation activities on residents of the local community. At the same time though, we strongly oppose the implementation of airport rules that are designed as economic disincentives or access restrictions until the need for such measures has been firmly established through the federally accepted Part 150 or Part 161 study process. To our knowledge that process has still not taken place at Hanscom Field.

AOPA hereby requests that the FAA immediately act on our complaint and conduct the appropriate investigation into the legality of the nighttime fees at Hanscom Field. For your convenience, I am attaching a copy of our original complaint, which very clearly articulates our arguments.

We would appreciate a timely resolution and response to our complaint. However, should you wish to discuss this matter further or if you have any questions, please call me at 301-695-2205.

Sincerely,



Bill Dunn  
Vice President, Airports

cc: David Bennett, Director, Office of Airport Safety and Standards  
Skip Erhard, Manager, Airports Compliance Division