

From: John Holic
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2017 2:12 PM
To: Mark Cervasio <MCervasio@Venicegov.com>
Cc: Edward Lavallee <ELavallee@Venicegov.com>; Lori Stelzer <LStelzer@Venicegov.com>
Subject: Re: Letter to Congressman Rooney - June 2017

Mark,

I will ask Lori to put it on the next agenda under Council Action. If Mr. Lavallee approves, I would like to have you come forward during that meeting to explain what it is all about.

John

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From: Mark Cervasio
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2017 1:44:52 PM
To: John Holic
Cc: Edward Lavallee
Subject: RE: Letter to Congressman Rooney - June 2017

Mayor Holic,

We also received a request from the National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) requesting we take the same action.

Personally, I think that the issues Mr. Grossman raises as concerns regarding privatization are valid. I also fear that privatization would have a detrimental effect on General Aviation. The airlines will pass any ATC costs for a flight along to their customers which would be divided up among however many people as they have seats for, however all the costs for a flight would have to be handled solely by the owner/operator of a GA aircraft.

If you like I can do more research and prepare something with more detail, but I wanted to get back to you right away. Mr. Grossman has called here and left a message for me and I think he has called Lori also.

*Mark Cervasio
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From: John Holic
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2017 5:15 AM
To: Mark Cervasio <MCervasio@Venicegov.com>
Cc: Edward Lavallee <ELavallee@Venicegov.com>
Subject: Fw: Letter to Congressman Rooney - June 2017

Mark,

The below was in my Junk file. I do not recall any contact with Mr. Grossman and do not have enough information to feel comfortable in asking council to approve sending a letter to Congressman Rooney. Please take a look at the attached and let me know your thoughts.

Thanks,

John

John Holic

Mayor, City of Venice

From: Josh Grossman <josh@aviationacrossamerica.com>

Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2017 2:05 PM

To: Mark Cervasio; John Holic; Lori Stelzer

Subject: Letter to Congressman Rooney - June 2017

Mayor Holic, Mr. Cervasio, and Ms. Stelzer,

I hope this email finds you all well. I am not sure if you remember my organization AAAA. We worked together in the past on a proclamation for general aviation month. We are a non-profit, non-partisan coalition of over 6,300 individuals, businesses, agricultural groups, FBO's, small airports, elected officials, charitable organizations, and leading business and aviation groups that are helping to raise awareness about the value of general aviation and local airports, particularly for rural communities.

We are concerned about what a privatized ATC means for general aviation airports, including the Venice Municipal Airport. We were hopeful Mayor Holic, to have you join our letter campaign to Congressman Rooney. Can you take a quick look and let me know if this is something you could join? Thank you very much for your time.

Congressman Thomas J. Rooney

2160 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

June 27, 2017

Dear Congressman Rooney,

On behalf of Venice, FL, I write to ask you to oppose H.R. 2997, which would privatize the nation's air traffic control system by removing Congressional oversight and placing it under the control of a board overseen by private interests.

If Congress is cut out of the process, private interests and commercial airlines would have free rein to raise fees and taxes on consumers, who already face fewer choices and worse treatment, and cut routes to small towns and rural communities, which have already seen a 20% cut in commercial airline service. While there are currently over 3000 airports around the country that connect communities to critical services, under this plan, airlines and their allies would be able to direct resources to their biggest 30 or so hub airports, and shut out lower cost competitors from the system. These are the same airlines who already control 70% of the market and can barely go a week without a major consumer incident or a technical outage.

Currently, Congressional oversight ensures that communities of all sizes have access to air transportation. Our network of airports drive business growth and commerce, and facilitate access to emergency services, medical care, disaster relief, fire-fighting, and many other critical services. Businesses, especially small- and mid-sized businesses, rely on these airports and general aviation aircraft to access rural markets, transport parts, tools and personnel between branches, and reach multiple locations in one day. However, privatization would threaten this important economic activity and lifeline to our communities.

There is no evidence that privatizing our system would save costs or alleviate delays. The Canadian privatized system, which is often held up as the system the U.S. should emulate, is more expensive than the system we have in the US, and has seen taxes and fees change multiple times. According to the Department of Transportation, the airlines themselves are responsible for most of the airline delays in the United States, so privatization would do nothing to alleviate the woes that plague most consumers on a daily basis.

Privatization of air traffic control would give private stakeholders and commercial airlines free rein to raise fares, disregard consumers and cut services to small communities and rural areas with no recourse of oversight from Congress.

Please say no to H.R. 2997 and keep Congressional oversight of this vital system in place.

Sincerely,

v/r,

Josh Grossman

Alliance for Aviation Across America

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