

(Date)

The Honorable _____
U.S. House of Representatives/United States Senate
_____ House/Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510 (Senate); 20515 (House)

Dear Senator/Representative:

[Include an opening paragraph describing your company, including the size of the operation and the number of employees. To the greatest extent possible, describe the impact your business has on the local economy.]

I am writing to bring to your attention an issue that has become problematic for the aviation industry in the United States. Our airline services providers continue to encounter inefficiencies for airport employees seeking to obtain proper identification and clearance for access to the secure area of commercial airports. Recent incidents over the last year at major commercial airports in the U.S. highlight the need for a uniform employee screening and identification process. Elimination of the endless bureaucracy and unnecessary redundancy associated with applying for and obtaining the appropriate identification card in order to work on an airport operating area is vital to the aviation industry.

Currently, no standardized process exists for the screening and approval of airport employees. Each airport authority is permitted to design and implement its own procedures for approving employees, with no required coordination between airports. Many airline services providers service commercial airline aircraft at a large number of airports across the country. The lack of standardization between airports for issuing secure credentials continues to increase the administrative costs for these service providers to hire and train new employees. These costs come in a variety of forms, from the direct costs in submitting information for Criminal History Records Checks to the indirect costs incurred in lost productivity while these employees wait an excessive amount of time for clearance. These rising costs will be further exacerbated as the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) implements much-needed screening improvements to strengthen the security of airport operating areas.

In many cases, the senior management of airline services providers is required to endure a burdensome process when visiting individual facilities at an airport, wasting time and money for both the service provider and the airport.

[Offer an example if applicable]

I respectfully request that you send the attached letter to the TSA addressing this concern and asking for implementation of a comprehensive, national policy to screen and credential airport employees and expedite the badging process to within seven business days after receipt of the results of a fingerprint-based criminal history records check (CHRC). Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,