

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

April 1, 2014

Chairman Tom Latham
Transportation, Housing and Urban
Development, and Related Agencies
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

Ranking Member Ed Pastor
Transportation, Housing and Urban
Development, and Related Agencies
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

Chairman Latham and Ranking Member Pastor:

We write to request that the Committee include the attached language when drafting the FY2015 Transportation/Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill. This proposed language would ensure funding for all contract air traffic control towers that are currently operating at airports in service for FY2015. The Department of Transportation (DOT) has yet to provide evidence for a need to close any contract air traffic control tower, or proof that such closure would not compromise the safety of our skies. We believe it is necessary to continue to include language mandating the funding of these towers unless DOT can report to Congress why such funding is not necessary to ensure the safety of our skies.

As the Appropriations Committee considers federal funding for FY2015, we hope that the subcommittee will include language that would, again, reaffirm to DOT and the Federal Aviation Administration the necessity of fairness and safety at all airports, especially those serving smaller cities and rural communities. Contract air traffic control towers exist to direct aircraft and ensure the safety of our skies. The importance of these towers cannot be dismissed, and any reforms made to the funding levels of these towers should be made in a fair, transparent, and safe manner.

We appreciate your attention to this request and look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



Bob Goodlatte
Member of Congress



Frederica Wilson
Member of Congress

FY 2015 Appropriations Bill Language:

That such funds as necessary made available by this Act shall be provided to ensure the continued operation of all towers in the contract tower program that are located at airports still in service as of the date of enactment, and remain in operation during the duration of this Act.



Robert Hurt
Member of Congress



G.K. Butterfield
Member of Congress



Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress



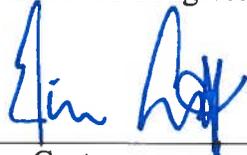
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Corrine Brown
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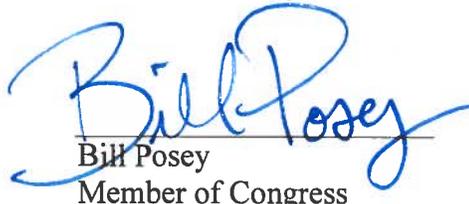
Jim Costa
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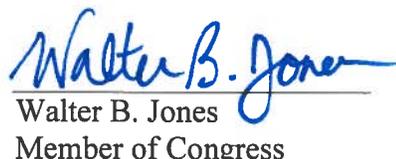
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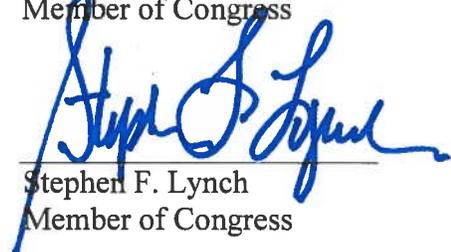
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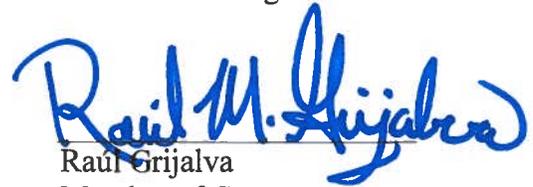
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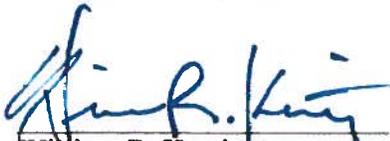
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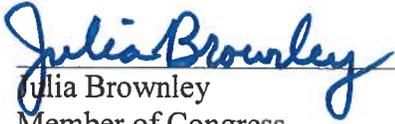
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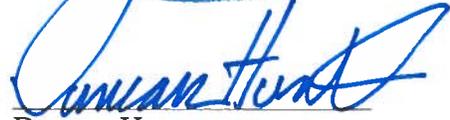
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