



**U.S. House of Representatives**  
**Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

**Don Young**  
Chairman

**James L. Oberstar**  
Ranking Democratic Member

December 12, 2005

Lloyd A. Jones, Chief of Staff  
Elizabeth Megginson, Chief Counsel

David Heymfeld, Democratic Chief of Staff

The Honorable Norman Y. Mineta  
Secretary of Transportation  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20590

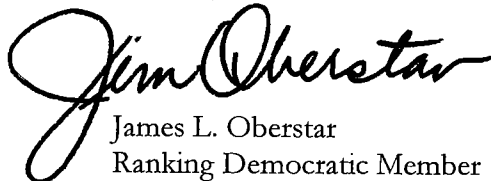
Dear Secretary Mineta:

It has come to my attention that Department of Transportation officials have had private meetings with individuals or groups in which they have discussed numerous aspects of the Department's November 7, 2005, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on *Actual Control of U.S. Air Carriers* (OST-03-15759). In particular, it is my understanding that Department officials have made statements regarding how the proposed changes to the definition of "actual control" of U.S. airlines would be interpreted in various situations.

It is essential that persons interested in filing comments on the NPRM have access to any such statements of intention or interpretation so that they can adequately assess the impact of the NPRM. Accordingly, I ask the Department to file immediately detailed reports of any such conversations or interpretations in the docket.

With all best wishes.

Sincerely,

  
James L. Oberstar  
Ranking Democratic Member