COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE SUMMARY OF THE AIRPORT AND AIRWAY EXTENSION ACT OF 2010, PART II (P.L. 111-197)

July 8, 2010

SUMMARY

The Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2010, Part II (P.L. 111-197) extends aviation programs, taxes, and expenditure authority for one additional month, through August 1, 2010, pending completion of a multi-year Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reauthorization bill. Without this short-term extension, the FAA's capital, research, and airport grant programs would shut down after July 3, 2010, and several thousand FAA employees would be furloughed.

On June 28, 2010, Committee on Ways and Means Chairman Sander M. Levin introduced H.R. 5611, the "Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2010, Part II". On June 29, 2010, the House passed H.R. 5611 by voice vote. On June 30, 2010, the Senate passed the bill by unanimous consent. On July 2, 2010, the President signed the bill into law. P.L. 111-197.

SECTION-BY-SECTION OF THE LEGISLATION

Section 1. Short Title

Section 1 states that the Act may be referred to as the "Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2010, Part II".

Sec. 2. Extension of Taxes Funding Airport and Airway Trust Fund

Section 2 extends the aviation excise taxes that support the Airport and Airway Trust Fund through August 1, 2010.

Sec. 3. Extension of Airport and Airway Trust Fund Expenditure Authority

Section 3 extends the FAA's authority to make expenditures from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund through August 1, 2010.

Sec. 4. Extension of Airport Improvement Program

Section 4 provides \$3.515 billion in contract authority for the FAA's Airport Improvement Program (AIP) for fiscal year (FY) 2010. This amount comports to the obligation limitation established for this program in Division A of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010 (P.L. 111-117). In addition, section 4 extends the FAA's authority to make new AIP project grants through August 1, 2010.

Sec. 5. Extension of Expiring Authorities

Section 5 extends various provisions of law that would otherwise have expired when the last long-term FAA reauthorization act (*Vision 100*) expired on September 30, 2007.

Subsection (a) extends through August 1, 2010, the pilot program for passenger facility fee authorizations at nonhub airports.

Subsection (b) requires the extension of aviation war risk insurance policies at least through August 1, 2010.

Subsection (c) extends through October 31, 2010, the authority of the Secretary of Transportation to limit an airline's third-party liability for any claims arising from a terrorist event.

Subsection (d) extends through August 1, 2010, the requirement for airports that have been unable to accommodate a request by an air carrier for access to gates or airport facilities to report to the Secretary of Transportation on such unfulfilled requests.

Subsection (e) extends through August 1, 2010, the eligibility of airports located in the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau to receive AIP grants.

Subsection (f) extends through August 1, 2010, the FAA's authority to make grants to states and local governments to support planning and projects with a goal of reducing non-compatible land uses around airports.

Subsection (g) extends through August 1, 2010, the FAA's authority to approve an application of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority to receive an airport development project grant or to impose a passenger facility fee.

Subsection (h) extends through August 1, 2010, the temporary increase in the Federal share of AIP project costs at small airports.

Subsection (i) extends through August 1, 2010, the FAA's authority to provide AIP discretionary grant funds (at a maximum level of \$2.5 million per year) for airport development projects at Midway Island airport.

Sec. 6. FAA Operations

Section 6 authorizes the appropriation of \$7,813,037,096 for FAA Operations for the first ten months of FY 2010 (through August 1). On an annualized basis, this represents an authorization of \$9,350,028,000 for the entire fiscal year, which is equal to the FY 2010 enacted appropriation.

Sec. 7. FAA Facilities and Equipment

Section 7 authorizes the appropriation of \$2,453,539,493 for FAA Facilities and Equipment for the first 10 months of FY 2010 (through August 1). On an annualized basis, this represents an authorization of \$2,936,203,000 for the entire fiscal year, which is equal to the FY 2010 enacted appropriation.

Sec. 8. Research, Engineering and Development

Section 8 authorizes the appropriation of \$159,184,932 for FAA Research, Engineering and Development for the first 10 months of FY 2010 (through August 1). On an annualized basis, this represents an authorization of \$190,500,000 for the entire fiscal year, which is equal to the FY 2010 enacted appropriation.