

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

March 12, 2012

The Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary LaHood,

The Congressional Delegation of Washington would like to register our strong support for Alaska Airlines' request to provide the first Portland, OR ("PDX")-Reagan Washington National Airport ("DCA") nonstop service. We understand that Alaska has applied for one of the four new limited incumbent carrier DCA beyond-perimeter roundtrips authorized by the recently signed FAA Modernization and Reform Act.

Alaska has the largest hub presence of any carrier at PDX with over 625 weekly flights. This frequency assures Alaska has the necessary connecting traffic coupled with local PDX-DCA travelers to easily support one daily PDX-DCA frequency. We know from experience that Alaska's SEA-DCA nonstop service operates at high load factors (the company informs us that its average load factor for the 12 months ended October 2011 was 91%). Therefore, our residents would welcome the opportunity to have another convenient Pacific Northwest connecting option for travel to DCA.

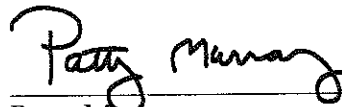
Alaska Airlines enjoys the singular status of being the only network carrier not to have declared bankruptcy. The company's solid financial position, award-winning customer service, and strong operational performance will provide residents of Oregon and the Pacific Northwest sustained service to our nation's capital.

We would be pleased to answer any questions you or your staff might have and do look forward to Alaska having the opportunity to initiate the first PDX-DCA nonstop service.

Sincerely



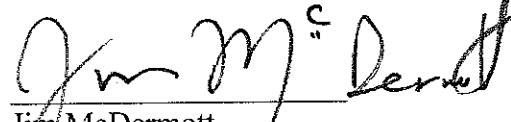
Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



Patty Murray
United States Senator



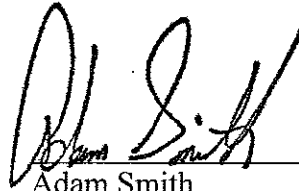
Norm Dicks
Member of Congress



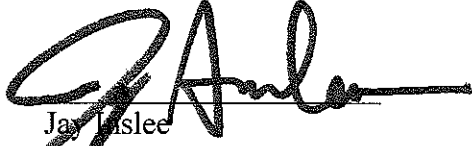
Jim McDermott
Member of Congress



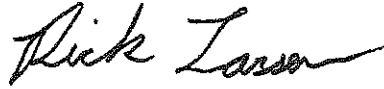
Doc Hastings
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Jay Inslee
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress



Dave Reichert
Member of Congress



Jamie Herrera Beutler
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