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Nebraska State Legislature

Community Comments
Docket OST-1996-1715-30
OST-1997-3005-25
COMMITTEES

SENATOR JIM JONES

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Natural Resources
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Reference
Committee on Committees
Legislative Council

January 20, 2004

Mr. Dennis DeVany, Division Chief
Essential Air Service Division
United States Department of Transportation
400 Seventh Street SW
Washington, DC 20590

2004 JAN 21 10:01 AM
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20590

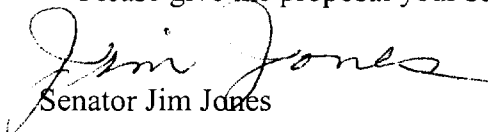
Dear Mr. Devany,

My name is Senator Jim Jones and I represent the 43rd Legislative District in the Nebraska State Legislature. The 43rd District is a large expanse of land in north-central Nebraska, commonly known as the Sandhills Region of the state. I am writing to voice my strong support for the Kearney-McCook proposal to provide enhanced air service under your Essential Air Service program. By adding Kansas City to the existing service to Denver, my district will have much improved access to the national transportation grid, which very well will translate into increased productivity.

I find personally, as well as in conversation with people in my legislative district, that because of geography or other factors, the Denver hub is simply inconvenient. The Kansas City airport will offer options that are very appealing and I believe access to this airport will significantly increase the use of the Kearney Municipal Airport.

While adding the Kansas City airport, and continuing to offer service into the Denver International Airport, I believe Kearney and McCook will be in a much stronger position to succeed as rural air service providers. This could lead to a possible lessening of future EAS subsidies. In my opinion, this is a good example of the type of collaboration that the DOT should encourage.

Please give the proposal your serious consideration. It will be good for rural Nebraska.


Senator Jim Jones

Nebraska State Legislature