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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 203

Senate Amendments in [] — February 15, 2000

Memorializing the Congress of the United States, the United States Secretary of Transportation, and the Governor to take certain actions to resolve the nation's air traffic control and airport infrastructure deficiencies.

Patrons—Saslaw and Howell

Referred to Committee on Rules

WHEREAS, the provision of airline and general aviation services are vital infrastructure for the Commonwealth's economy in today's global market; and

WHEREAS, in Virginia more than 1,300 local service flights were delayed or canceled during the third quarter of 1999 due to limitations in the air traffic control system; and

WHEREAS, the lack of capacity in the nation's air traffic control system caused extensive delays for Virginia travelers and cost the airline industry, which includes four airlines based in Virginia, an estimated \$2 billion in increased operating costs during 1998; and

WHEREAS, a lack of facilities at many major hub airports is inhibiting the growth of competitive services in many markets and the expansion of regional services to small communities; and

WHEREAS, the Congress and the air transport community in recent years have failed to work together to address these strategic system concerns; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the Congress of the United States be memorialized rapidly to enact legislation and appropriate funds required to resolve the nation's air traffic control and airport infrastructure deficiencies; and be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the United States Secretary of Transportation [; ~~Rodney Slater~~,] be requested to use his high office - as he has so effectively done for international aviation policy - to provide leadership among all air transportation stakeholders in order to find rapid solutions to these problems; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That [~~Governor Gilmore~~ the Governor] be requested to seek support of the nation's [other] Governors for a rapid solution to these air transportation problems; and

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, the members of the Virginia Congressional Delegation, the U. S. Secretary of Transportation, and the Governor in order that they may be apprised of the sense of the Virginia General Assembly in this matter.

ENGROSSED

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