

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

March 18, 2016

The Honorable Anthony R. Foxx
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

We write in strong support of Alaska Airlines' (Alaska) application to the U.S. Department of Transportation to provide air carrier service between the United States and Cuba.

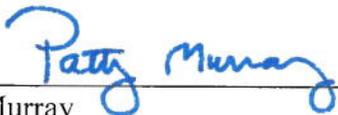
On February 16, 2016, the United States signed an agreement with Cuba to re-establish scheduled air service between the two countries. The agreement allows for up to 110 scheduled flights each day by U.S. carriers, and 20 of these flights have been allocated for service between the United States and Havana. Alaska has submitted an application to provide twice-daily nonstop roundtrip service between Los Angeles and Havana using 181-seat Boeing 737-900 ER aircraft. To maximize public benefits for West Coast-based customers, one of these daily flights would serve a Seattle-Los Angeles-Havana route and the other would be a Portland-Los Angeles-Havana route. As one of the two daily flights will originate in Seattle, residents of Washington state will enjoy same-plane, one-stop or single-connection service to Havana.

Alaska is the leading West Coast-based airline and a recognized leader in operating performance, customer service, and reliability. The company operates more than 800 flights each day and offers an expansive route network through its partnership with 14 global airlines. Alaska's existing Latin America gateway in Los Angeles, with nonstop service to nine other Latin American destinations, is uniquely positioned to provide flights between West Coast cities and Havana.

Alaska's proposed service would attract local business, leisure, and Cuban American customers while providing international travelers with convenient connection options to access one of the Caribbean's most popular destinations. Connecting the Northwest to Cuba through service on Alaska Airlines would benefit local and regional communities and Washington state's economy.

Thank you for your consideration of and attention to Alaska's application.

Sincerely,



Patty Murray
United States Senator



Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



Jim McDermott
Member of Congress



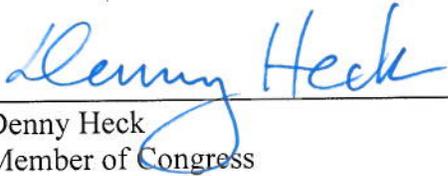
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



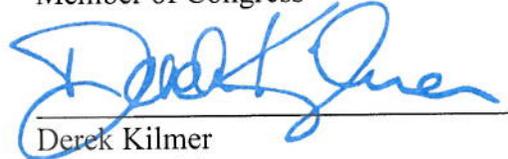
Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Suzan DelBene
Member of Congress



Denny Heck
Member of Congress



Derek Kilmer
Member of Congress