

Alaska State Legislature

Senate and House of Representatives



The Honorable Joe Lieberman, United State Senator
Chair of the Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs
706 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins, United States Senator
Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski, US Senator
709 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mark Begich, United States Senator
144 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Subject: Request for the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs to hold a hearing on Transportation Security Administration Screening Procedures.

Dear Senators Lieberman, Collins, Murkowski, and Begich,

We, the following members of the Alaska State Legislature, request that the United States Senate Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs conduct an oversight hearing, in Alaska, on the current practices regarding pat-down searches and other security procedures by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) conducted on airline passengers.

Efficient air travel is a cornerstone of Alaska's economy and quality of life. There is no way to travel to many areas of Alaska except via air. Furthermore, there is no way to travel to Alaska itself except by ship, airplane, or through Canada, which requires a passport. Therefore, the procedures used for air travel are of the utmost importance to Alaskans.

The recent screening procedures by the TSA are onerous and invasive to airline passengers. The new scanners produce graphic images of the human body. The pat down procedures, used either instead of or in addition to the scanning procedures, are invasive and burdensome, particularly to those who have undergone medical treatment, have experienced sexual abuse, or are mentally or physically disabled. These procedures are an invasion of privacy to airline passengers.

An oversight hearing of the TSA procedures conducted in Alaska is warranted due to both the unique role aviation plays in day-to-day life in Alaska as well as the nation-wide public outcry that has resulted from the new screening procedures. The hearing should be on the new pat-down procedures adopted on October 28, 2010 and other TSA policies that may violate the privacy rights of law-abiding individuals. We would hope that members of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs would consider whether legislation is necessary.

Thank you very much for your consideration of this request for a hearing in Alaska on this subject.

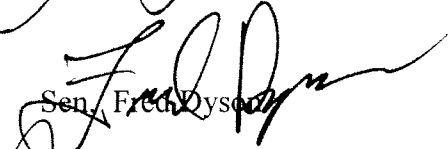
Signed by the following members of the Alaska State Senate and the Alaska State House of Representatives:

Alaska State Senate

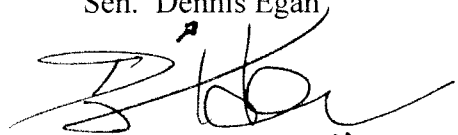

Sen. John Coghill

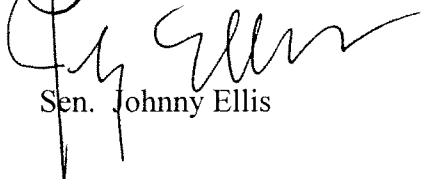
Sen. Bettye Davis




Sen. Fred Oysoff

Sen. Dennis Egan




Sen. Johnny Ellis

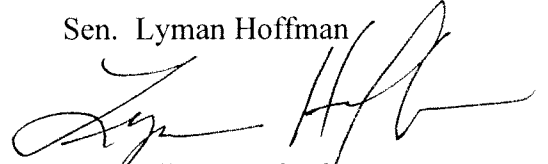
Sen. Hollis French



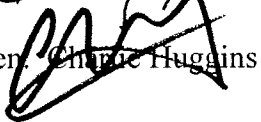
Sen. Cathy Giessel



Sen. Lyman Hoffman



Sen. Cherie Huggins




Sen. Albert Kookesh



Sen. Lesil McGuire



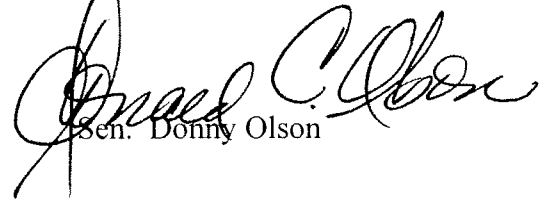
Sen. Linda Menard



Sen. Kevin Meyer



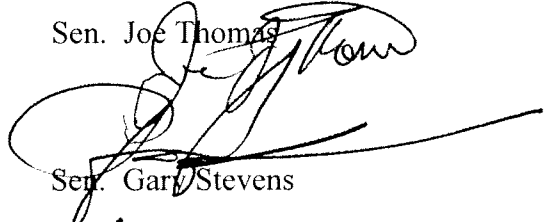

Sen. Donny Olson



Sen. Joe Paskvan


Sen. Joe Thomas





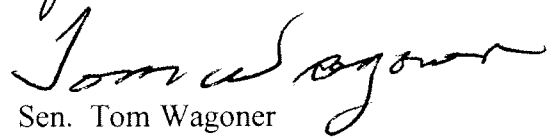
Sen. Bill Wielechowski

Sen. Gary Stevens



Sen. Bert Stedman

Sen. Tom Wagoner



Alaska State House of Representatives



Rep. Alan Austerman



Rep. Mike Chenault



Rep. Sharon Cissna



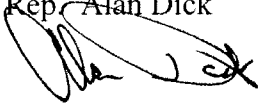
Rep. Mia Costello

Alan Dick

Rep. Alan Dick



Rep. Mike Doogan




Rep. Bryce Edgmon



Rep. Anna Fairclough



Rep. Eric Feige



Rep. Neal Foster



Rep. Les Gara



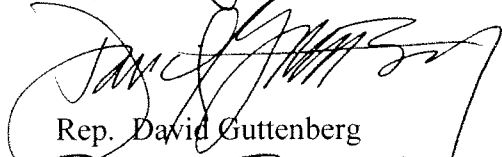
Rep. Berta Gardner



Rep. Carl Gatto



Rep. Max Gruenberg



Rep. David Guttenberg



Rep. Mike Hawker



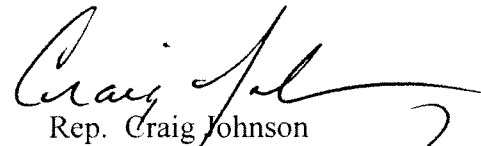
Rep. Bob Herron



Rep. Lindsey Holmes



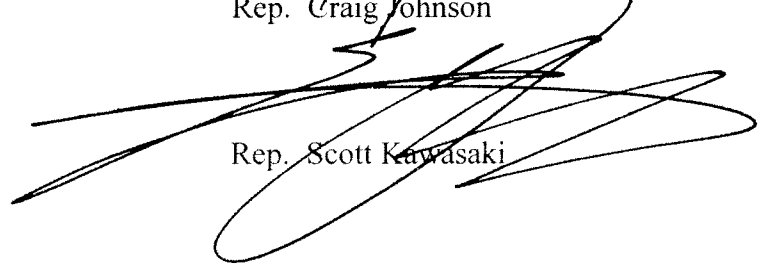
Rep. Kyle Johansen



Rep. Craig Johnson

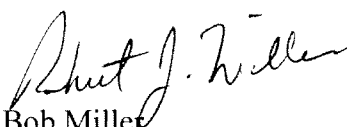



Rep. Reggie Joule




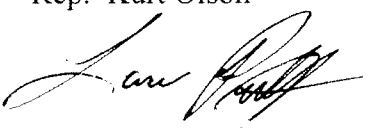
Rep. Scott Kawasaki



Rep. Wes Keller


Rep. Bob Miller

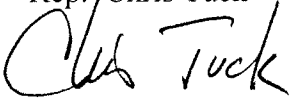

Rep. Cathy Muñoz

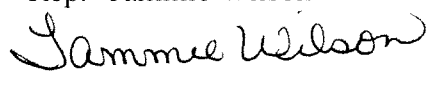

Rep. Kurt Olson


Rep. Lance Pruitt


Rep. Paul Seaton



Rep. Bill Thomas


Rep. Chris Tuck


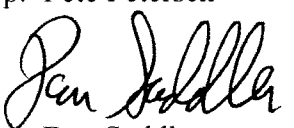
Rep. Tammie Wilson


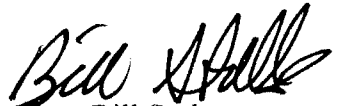

Rep. Beth Kerttula


Rep. Charisse Millet



Rep. Mark Neuman


Rep. Pete Petersen


Rep. Dan Saddler


Rep. Bill Stoltze


Rep. Steve Thompson


Rep. Peggy Wilson