



STATE OF GEORGIA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

ATLANTA 30334-0090

Nathan Deal
GOVERNOR

April 28, 2017

The Honorable Rex Tillerson
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Tillerson and Secretary Chao:

I am writing to draw attention to the serious threat to the U.S. aviation industry posed by the massive subsidies Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are providing to their state-owned airlines. These subsidies have allowed the three state-owned Gulf carriers – Qatar Airways, Etihad Airways, and Emirates Airlines – to dramatically increase capacity and lower prices, forcing U.S. carriers to abandon international routes and putting U.S. aviation jobs at risk.

Georgia is home to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport where both national and international carriers service it, creating jobs and supporting local businesses that are critical to the economy. We welcome international carriers and the international travelers that they bring to Georgia. But international carriers have to play by the same rules as U.S. carriers.

The Gulf carriers are not playing by the rules. Since 2004, these airlines have received over \$50 billion in government subsidies and other unfair benefits from Qatar and the UAE, a direct violation of the rules negotiated by the United States in the Open Skies agreements. These unfair government subsidies disrupt the market and make it impossible for U.S. carriers to compete for international routes. Because the Gulf carriers have the unlimited financial backing of their governments, they can drive down prices and operate at a loss in a way that U.S. carriers, which are accountable to their shareholders, cannot.

The unfair competition caused by the Gulf carriers' massive government subsidies poses a direct threat to U.S. jobs. Experts estimate that for every international roundtrip flight dropped by a U.S. airline, over 1,500 American jobs are lost. For the past ten years, the Gulf carriers have become increasingly aggressive in expanding capacity to push U.S. carriers off international routes. Now the Gulf carriers are targeting routes between the United States and Europe. Emirates flies a nonstop route from New York City to Milan, Italy, and recently introduced a second nonstop route from New York City to Athens, Greece. These so-called "fifth freedom" flights would not be viable for the Gulf carriers without subsidies and directly target routes that are key to U.S. airline profitability and U.S. aviation jobs. If the Gulf carriers are allowed to continue their subsidy-fueled expansion unchecked, more hardworking Americans in Georgia could lose their jobs.

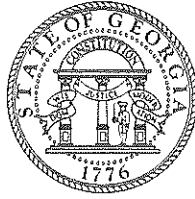
While I support the U.S. Open Skies program and welcome international carriers and passengers to Georgia, I believe that U.S. airlines should be able to compete on a level playing field. The United States entered into the Open Skies agreements to ensure that U.S. airlines would receive fair and equal treatment. I urge you to take action to enforce these agreements and restore a level playing field for our U.S. international carriers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nathan Deal". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nathan Deal
Governor of Georgia



OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

240 STATE CAPITOL

ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

CASEY CAGLE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

April 17, 2017

The Honorable Rex Tillerson
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Tillerson and Secretary Chao:

I write to express my serious concerns regarding the U.S. aviation industry, specifically as it pertains to select international flights. Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) allocate massive subsidies to their state-owned airlines, creating extreme competitive advantages over other airlines. These subsidies have allowed the three state-owned Gulf carriers – Qatar Airways, Etihad Airways, and Emirates Airlines – to dramatically increase capacity and lower prices, forcing U.S. carriers to withdraw from international routes.

Georgia is home to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport where both national and international carriers operate, creating jobs and supporting local businesses critical to our state's economy. We welcome international carriers and the international travelers that they bring to Georgia, but international carriers and U.S. carriers should play by the same rules.


Since 2004, the aforementioned airlines have received over \$50 billion in government subsidies and other unfair benefits from Qatar and the UAE, a direct violation of the rules negotiated by the United States in the Open Skies agreements. These excessive government subsidies disrupt the market and make it impossible for U.S. carriers to compete for international routes. Because the Gulf carriers have the unlimited financial backing of their governments, they can drive down prices and operate at a loss in a way that U.S. carriers, which are accountable to their shareholders, cannot.

These massive government subsidies pose a direct threat to U.S. jobs. Industry experts estimate that for every international roundtrip flight dropped by a U.S. airline, over 1,500 American jobs are lost. For the past ten years, the Gulf carriers have become increasingly aggressive in expanding capacity to push U.S. carriers off international routes.

While I support the U.S. Open Skies program and welcome international carriers and passengers to Georgia, I believe that U.S. airlines should be able to compete on a level playing field. The United States entered into the Open Skies agreements to ensure that U.S. airlines would receive fair and equal treatment.

I respectfully urge you to take action to enforce these agreements and restore a level playing field for our U.S. international carriers.

Sincerely,



Casey Cagle
Lt. Governor of Georgia



House of Representatives

DAVID RALSTON
SPEAKER

332 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

(404) 656-5020
(404) 656-5644 (FAX)

April 12, 2017

The Honorable Rex Tillerson
Secretary, U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary, U. S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Tillerson and Secretary Chao:

I am writing to draw attention to the serious threat to the U.S. aviation industry posed by the massive subsidies Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are providing to their state-owned airlines. These subsidies have allowed the three state-owned Gulf carriers – Qatar Airways, Etihad Airways, and Emirates Airlines – to dramatically increase capacity and lower prices, forcing U.S. carriers to abandon international routes and putting U.S. aviation jobs at risk.

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The Gulf carriers are not playing by the rules. Since 2004, these airlines have received over \$50 billion in government subsidies and other unfair benefits from Qatar and the UAE, a direct violation of the rules negotiated by the United States in the Open Skies agreements. These unfair government subsidies disrupt the market and make it impossible for U.S. carriers to compete for international routes. Because the Gulf carriers have the unlimited financial backing of their governments, they can drive down prices and operate at a loss in a way that U.S. carriers, which are accountable to their shareholders, cannot.

The unfair competition caused by the Gulf carriers' massive government subsidies poses a direct threat to U.S. jobs. Experts estimate that for every international roundtrip flight dropped by a U.S. airline, over 1,500 American jobs are lost. For the past ten years, the Gulf carriers have become increasingly aggressive in expanding capacity to push U.S. carriers off international routes. Now the Gulf carriers are targeting routes between the United States and Europe. Emirates flies a nonstop route from New York City to Milan, Italy, and recently introduced a second nonstop route from New York City to Athens, Greece. These so-called "fifth freedom" flights would not be viable for the Gulf carriers without subsidies and directly target routes that are key to U.S. airline profitability and U.S. aviation jobs. If the Gulf carriers are allowed to continue their subsidy-fueled expansion unchecked, more hardworking Americans in Georgia could lose their jobs.

While I support the U.S. Open Skies program and welcome international carriers and passengers to Georgia, I believe that U.S. airlines should be able to compete on a level playing field. The United States entered into the Open Skies agreements to ensure that U.S. airlines would receive fair and equal treatment. I urge you to take action to enforce these agreements and restore a level playing field for our U.S. international carriers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

David Ralston, Speaker
Georgia House of Representatives

DR/dh

BILL COWSERT
District 46

236 State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
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The State Senate
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

COMMITTEES

Appropriations
Health and Human Services
Judiciary, Vice Chairman
Reapportionment and Redistricting
Regulated Industries and Utilities
Finance, Ex Officio
Rules, Ex Officio
Transportation, Ex Officio

COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE ON ASSIGNMENTS

Majority Leader

The Honorable Rex Tillerson
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Tillerson and Secretary Chao:

I ask respectfully that you please consider the serious threat to the U.S. aviation industry posed by the massive subsidies Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are providing to their state-owned airlines. These subsidies have allowed the three state-owned Gulf carriers – Qatar Airways, Etihad Airways, and Emirates Airlines – to dramatically increase capacity and lower prices, forcing U.S. carriers to abandon international routes. Fewer routes means fewer U.S. aviation jobs.

Georgia is home to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport where both national and international carriers create jobs and support critical local businesses. We welcome international carriers and the international travelers that they bring to Georgia. Still, international carriers should play by the same rules as U.S. carriers.

Qatar and UAE have provided these three international airlines more than \$50 billion in government subsidies and other unfair benefits since 2004. This is a direct violation of the rules negotiated by the United States in the Open Skies agreements. With this disruption of the fair market, U.S. carriers cannot compete for international routes. When the Gulf carriers have unlimited financial backing from their governments, they can drive down prices and operate at a loss. U.S. carriers, which are accountable to their shareholders, cannot.

Experts estimate that for every international roundtrip flight dropped by a U.S. airline, more than 1,500 American jobs are lost. For 10 years now, the Gulf carriers have become increasingly aggressive in expanding capacity. They are effectively pushing U.S. carriers off international routes. Making matters worse, the Gulf carriers now are targeting routes between the United States and Europe. These routes are key to U.S. airline profitability and U.S. aviation jobs. I ask you, please.

While I support the U.S. Open Skies program and welcome international carriers and passengers to Georgia, I believe that U.S. airlines should be able to compete on a level playing field. The United States entered into the Open Skies agreements to ensure that U.S. airlines would receive fair and equal treatment. I urge you respectfully, do not allow the Gulf carriers to continue their subsidy-fueled expansion unchecked. Please take action to enforce these agreements and restore a level playing field for our U.S. international carriers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bill Cowser". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Bill Cowser

Senate Majority Leader



House of Representatives

JON BURNS

REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT #159
5829 CLYO-KILDARE ROAD
NEWINGTON, GA 30446
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MAJORITY LEADER

AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER AFFAIRS
APPROPRIATIONS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
ETHICS COMMITTEE
GAME, FISH & PARKS
RULES AND TRANSPORTATION

April 25, 2017

The Honorable Rex Tillerson
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Tillerson and Secretary Chao:

I am writing to draw attention to the serious threat to the U.S. aviation industry posed by the massive subsidies Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are providing to their state-owned airlines. These subsidies have allowed the three state-owned Gulf carriers – Qatar Airways, Etihad Airways, and Emirates Airlines – to dramatically increase capacity and lower prices, forcing U.S. carriers to abandon international routes and putting U.S. aviation jobs at risk.

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The Gulf carriers are not playing by the rules. Since 2004, these airlines have received over \$50 billion in government subsidies and other unfair benefits from Qatar and the UAE, a direct violation of the rules negotiated by the United States in the Open Skies agreements. These unfair government subsidies disrupt the market and make it impossible for U.S. carriers to compete for international routes. Because the Gulf carriers have the unlimited financial backing of their governments, they can drive down prices and operate at a loss in a way that U.S. carriers, which are accountable to their shareholders, cannot.

The unfair competition caused by the Gulf carriers' massive government subsidies poses a direct threat to U.S. jobs. Experts estimate that for every international roundtrip flight dropped by a U.S. airline, over 1,500 American jobs are lost. For the past ten years, the Gulf carriers have become increasingly aggressive in expanding capacity to push U.S. carriers off international routes. Now the Gulf carriers are targeting routes between the United States and Europe. Emirates flies a nonstop route from New York City to Milan, Italy, and recently introduced a second nonstop route from New York City to Athens, Greece. These so-called "fifth freedom" flights would not be viable for the Gulf carriers without subsidies and directly target routes that are key to U.S. airline profitability and U.S. aviation jobs. If the Gulf carriers are allowed to continue their subsidy-fueled expansion unchecked, more hardworking Americans in Georgia could lose their jobs.

While I support the U.S. Open Skies program and welcome international carriers and passengers to Georgia, I believe that U.S. airlines should be able to compete on a level playing field. The United States entered into the Open Skies agreements to ensure that U.S. airlines would receive fair and equal treatment. I urge you to take action to enforce these agreements and restore a level playing field for our U.S. international carriers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jon Burns
JB/ph



House of Representatives

MATT HATCHETT
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 150
100 CANTERBURY ROAD
DUBLIN, GEORGIA 31021

E-MAIL: matt.hatchett@house.ga.gov

MAJORITY CAUCUS CHAIRMAN

415 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
(404) 656-5025
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STANDING COMMITTEES:

APPROPRIATIONS – GENERAL GOVERNMENT
ENERGY, UTILITIES & TELECOMMUNICATIONS
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM
ETHICS
RULES

May 1, 2017

The Honorable Rex Tillerson
Secretary, U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary, U. S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Tillerson and Secretary Chao:

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The unfair competition caused by the Gulf carriers' massive government subsidies poses a direct threat to U.S. jobs. Experts estimate that for every international roundtrip flight dropped by a U.S. airline, over 1,500 American jobs are lost. For the past ten years, the Gulf carriers have become increasingly aggressive in expanding capacity to push U.S. carriers off international routes. Now the Gulf carriers are targeting routes between the United States and Europe. Emirates flies a nonstop route from New York City to Milan, Italy, and recently introduced a second nonstop route from New York City to Athens, Greece. These so-called "fifth freedom" flights would not be viable for the Gulf carriers without subsidies and directly target routes that are key to U.S. airline profitability and U.S. aviation jobs. If the Gulf carriers are allowed to continue their subsidy-fueled expansion unchecked, more hardworking Americans in Georgia could lose their jobs.

While I support the U.S. Open Skies program and welcome international carriers and passengers to Georgia, I believe that U.S. airlines should be able to compete on a level playing field. The United States entered into the Open Skies agreements to ensure that U.S. airlines would receive fair and equal treatment. I urge you to take action to enforce these agreements and restore a level playing field for our U.S. international carriers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Matt Hatchett, Chairman
Georgia House Majority Caucus

JMH/dls

STEVE GOOCH
District 51
421-F State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
Phone: (404) 656-9221
Fax: (404) 651-6768



COMMITTEES:
Transportation, Vice-Chairman
Appropriations, Secretary
Finance
Regulated Industries and Utilities
Rules, Ex-Officio

E-mail: steve.gooch@senate.ga.gov

The State Senate
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
Majority Whip

The Honorable Rex Tillerson
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Tillerson and Secretary Chao:

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The unfair competition caused by the Gulf carriers' massive government subsidies poses a direct threat to U.S. jobs. Experts estimate that for every international roundtrip flight dropped by a U.S. airline, over 1,500 American jobs are lost. For the past ten years, the Gulf carriers have become increasingly aggressive in expanding capacity to push U.S. carriers off international routes. Now the Gulf carriers are targeting routes between the United States and Europe. Emirates flies a nonstop route from New York City to Milan, Italy, and recently introduced a second nonstop route from New York City to Athens, Greece. These so-called "fifth freedom" flights would not be viable for the Gulf carriers without subsidies and directly target routes that are key to U.S. airline profitability and U.S. aviation jobs. If the Gulf carriers are allowed to continue their subsidy-fueled expansion unchecked, more hardworking Americans in Georgia could lose their jobs.

While I support the U.S. Open Skies program and welcome international carriers and passengers to Georgia, I believe that U.S. airlines should be able to compete on a level playing field. The United States entered into the Open Skies agreements to ensure that U.S. airlines would receive fair and equal treatment. I urge you to take action to enforce these agreements and restore a level playing field for our U.S. international carriers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Steve Gooch, 51st District

JOHN K. WILKINSON
District 50
PO Box 2227
Toccoa, Georgia 30577

421-A State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334
Tel: (404) 463-5257
Fax: (404) 651-6768

John.Wilkinson@senate.ga.gov



The State Senate

Atlanta, Georgia 30334

COMMITTEES:

Agriculture and Consumer Affairs, Chairman
Education and Youth, Vice-Chairman
Appropriations
Natural Resources and the Environment
Rules, Ex-Officio

The Honorable Rex Tillerson
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Tillerson and Secretary Chao:

I am writing to draw attention to the serious threat to the U.S. aviation industry posed by the massive subsidies Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are providing to their state-owned airlines. These subsidies have allowed the three state-owned Gulf carriers – Qatar Airways, Etihad Airways, and Emirates Airlines – to dramatically increase capacity and lower prices, forcing U.S. carriers to abandon international routes and putting U.S. aviation jobs at risk.

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The unfair competition caused by the Gulf carriers' massive government subsidies poses a direct threat to U.S. jobs. Experts estimate that for every international roundtrip flight dropped by a U.S. airline, over 1,500 American jobs are lost. For the past ten years, the Gulf carriers have become increasingly aggressive in expanding capacity to push U.S. carriers off international routes. Now the Gulf carriers are targeting routes between the United States and Europe. Emirates flies a nonstop route from New York City to Milan, Italy, and recently introduced a second nonstop route from New York City to Athens, Greece. These so-called "fifth freedom" flights would not be viable for the Gulf carriers without subsidies and directly target routes that are key to U.S. airline profitability and U.S. aviation jobs. If the Gulf carriers are allowed to continue their subsidy-fueled expansion unchecked, more hardworking Americans in Georgia could lose their jobs.

While I support the U.S. Open Skies program and welcome international carriers and passengers to Georgia, I believe that U.S. airlines should be able to compete on a level playing field. The United States entered into the Open Skies agreements to ensure that U.S. airlines would receive fair and equal treatment. I urge you to take action to enforce these agreements and restore a level playing field for our U.S. international carriers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

John K. Wilkinson



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BRUCE WILLIAMSON
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 115
POST OFFICE BOX 430
MONROE, GEORGIA 30655
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bruce.williamson@house.ga.gov

MAJORITY CAUCUS SECRETARY TREASURER

415 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
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STANDING COMMITTEES

Banks & Banking
Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications
Governmental Affairs
Insurance
Ways and Means

May 3, 2017

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary, U. S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

I am writing to draw attention to the serious threat to the U.S. aviation industry posed by the massive subsidies Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are providing to their state-owned airlines. These subsidies have allowed the three state-owned Gulf carriers – Qatar Airways, Etihad Airways, and Emirates Airlines – to dramatically increase capacity and lower prices, forcing U.S. carriers to abandon international routes and putting U.S. aviation jobs at risk.

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The unfair competition caused by the Gulf carriers' massive government subsidies poses a direct threat to U.S. jobs. Experts estimate that for every international roundtrip flight dropped by a U.S. airline, over 1,500 American jobs are lost. For the past ten years, the Gulf carriers have become increasingly aggressive in expanding capacity to push U.S. carriers off international routes. Now the Gulf carriers are targeting routes between the United States and Europe. Emirates fly a nonstop route from New York City to Milan, Italy, and recently introduced a second nonstop route from New York City to Athens, Greece. These so-called "fifth freedom" flights would not be viable for the Gulf carriers without subsidies and directly target routes that are key to U.S. airline profitability and U.S. aviation jobs. If the Gulf carriers are permitted to continue their subsidy-fueled expansion unchecked, more hardworking Americans in Georgia will lose their jobs.

While I support the U.S. Open Skies program and welcome international carriers and passengers to Georgia, I believe that U.S. airlines should be able to compete on a level playing field. The United States entered the Open Skies agreements to ensure that U.S. airlines would receive fair and equal treatment. I urge you to act to enforce these agreements and restore a level playing field for our U.S. international carriers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Bruce Williamson
Majority Caucus Secretary Treasurer
Georgia House of Representatives

BW/ap

P.S. MANY thanks for your service and assistance in this matter!



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BRUCE WILLIAMSON
REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 115
POST OFFICE BOX 430
MONROE, GEORGIA 30655
770.833.4545 (C)
770.267.2566 (O)
bruce.williamson@house.ga.gov

MAJORITY CAUCUS SECRETARY TREASURER

415 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334
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404.657.8278 (fax)

STANDING COMMITTEES

Banks & Banking
Energy, Utilities & Telecommunications
Governmental Affairs
Insurance
Ways and Means

May 3, 2017

The Honorable Rex Tillerson
Secretary, U. S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Tillerson:

I am writing to draw attention to the serious threat to the U.S. aviation industry posed by the massive subsidies Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are providing to their state-owned airlines. These subsidies have allowed the three state-owned Gulf carriers – Qatar Airways, Etihad Airways, and Emirates Airlines – to dramatically increase capacity and lower prices, forcing U.S. carriers to abandon international routes and putting U.S. aviation jobs at risk.

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Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Bruce Williamson
Majority Caucus Secretary Treasurer
Georgia House of Representatives

BW/ap

*P.S. We would appreciate your
help in this fight!*



GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

PAT WILSON
COMMISSIONER

May 5, 2017

The Honorable Rex Tillerson
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Tillerson and Secretary Chao:

I am writing to draw attention to the serious threat to the U.S. aviation industry posed by the massive subsidies Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are providing to their state-owned airlines. These subsidies have allowed the three state-owned Gulf carriers – Qatar Airways, Etihad Airways, and Emirates Airlines – to dramatically increase capacity and lower prices, forcing U.S. carriers to abandon international routes and putting U.S. aviation jobs at risk.

Georgia is home to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport where both national and international carriers service it, creating jobs and supporting local businesses that are critical to the economy. We welcome international carriers and the international travelers that they bring to Georgia. But international carriers have to play by the same rules as U.S. carriers.

The Gulf carriers are not playing by the rules. Since 2004, these airlines have received over \$50 billion in government subsidies and other unfair benefits from Qatar and the UAE, a direct violation of the rules negotiated by the United States in the Open Skies agreements. These unfair government subsidies disrupt the market and make it impossible for U.S. carriers to compete for international routes. Because the Gulf carriers have the unlimited financial backing of their governments, they can drive down prices and operate at a loss in a way that U.S. carriers, which are accountable to their shareholders, cannot.

The unfair competition caused by the Gulf carriers' massive government subsidies poses a direct threat to U.S. jobs. Experts estimate that for every international roundtrip flight dropped by a U.S. airline, over 1,500 American jobs are lost. For the past ten years, the Gulf carriers have become increasingly aggressive in expanding capacity to push U.S. carriers off international routes. Now the Gulf carriers are targeting routes between the United States and Europe. Emirates flies a nonstop route from New York City to Milan, Italy, and recently introduced a second nonstop route from New York City to Athens, Greece. These so-called

"fifth freedom" flights would not be viable for the Gulf carriers without subsidies and directly target routes that are key to U.S. airline profitability and U.S. aviation jobs. If the Gulf carriers are allowed to continue their subsidy-fueled expansion unchecked, more hardworking Americans in Georgia could lose their jobs.

While I support the U.S. Open Skies program and welcome international carriers and passengers to Georgia, I believe that U.S. airlines should be able to compete on a level playing field. The United States entered into the Open Skies agreements to ensure that U.S. airlines would receive fair and equal treatment. I urge you to take action to enforce these agreements and restore a level playing field for our U.S. international carriers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Pat Wilson', with a stylized, cursive script.

Pat Wilson

Commissioner



March 28, 2017

The Honorable Rex Tillerson
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
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Georgia is proud to be home to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport where both national and international carriers service it, creating jobs and supporting local businesses that are critical to our economy. We welcome international carriers and international travelers to Georgia, but we believe international carriers should play by the same rules as U.S. carriers.

Reports show that since 2004, these airlines have received over \$50 billion in government subsidies and other unfair benefits from Qatar and the UAE, a direct violation of the rules negotiated by the United States in the Open Skies agreements. These unfair government subsidies disrupt the market and make it impossible for U.S. carriers to compete for international routes. Because the Gulf carriers have the unlimited financial backing of their governments, they drive down prices and often operate at a loss in a way that our carriers, which are accountable to their shareholders, cannot.

The unfair competition caused by the Gulf carriers' massive government subsidies poses a direct threat to American jobs. Experts estimate that for every international roundtrip flight dropped by a U.S. airline, over 1,500 American jobs are lost. For the past ten years, the Gulf carriers have become increasingly aggressive in expanding capacity to push U.S. carriers off international routes. Now the Gulf carriers are targeting routes between the United States and Europe. These so-called "fifth freedom" flights would not be viable for the Gulf carriers without subsidies and directly target routes that are key to U.S. airline profitability and U.S. aviation jobs. If the Gulf carriers are allowed to

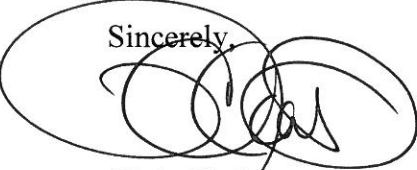
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Letter to Secretary Tillerson and Chao
March 28, 2017

continue their subsidy-fueled expansion unchecked, more hardworking Americans in Georgia could lose their jobs.

While we support the U.S. Open Skies program and welcome international carriers and passengers to Georgia, we believe that U.S. airlines deserve a level playing field. The United States entered into the Open Skies agreements to ensure that our airlines would receive fair and equal treatment. I urge you to take action to enforce these agreements and restore equity.

Thank you for your time, consideration and service.

Sincerely,



Chris Clark
President & CEO



March 28, 2017

The Honorable Rex Tillerson
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

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The Gulf carriers are not playing by the rules. Since 2004, these airlines have received over \$50 billion in government subsidies and other unfair benefits from Qatar and the UAE, a direct violation of the rules negotiated by the United States in the Open Skies agreements. These unfair government subsidies disrupt the market and make it impossible for U.S. carriers to compete for international routes. Because the Gulf carriers have the unlimited financial backing of their governments, they can drive down prices and operate at a loss in a way that U.S. carriers, which are accountable to their shareholders, cannot.

The unfair competition caused by the Gulf carriers' massive government subsidies poses a direct threat to U.S. jobs. Experts estimate that for every international roundtrip flight dropped by a U.S. airline, over 1,500 American jobs are lost. For the past ten years, the Gulf carriers have become increasingly aggressive in expanding capacity to push U.S. carriers off international routes. Now the Gulf carriers are targeting routes between the United States and Europe. Emirates flies a nonstop route from New York City to Milan, Italy, and recently introduced a second nonstop route from New York City to Athens, Greece. These so-called "fifth freedom" flights would not be viable for the Gulf carriers without subsidies and directly target routes that are key to U.S. airline profitability and U.S. aviation jobs. If the Gulf carriers are allowed to continue their subsidy-fueled expansion unchecked, more hardworking Americans in Georgia could lose their jobs.

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Tillerson/Chao
March 28, 2017

While I support the U.S. Open Skies program and welcome international carriers and passengers to Georgia, I believe that U.S. airlines should be able to compete on a level playing field. The United States entered into the Open Skies agreements to ensure that U.S. airlines would receive fair and equal treatment. I urge you to take action to enforce these agreements and restore a level playing field for our U.S. international carriers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hala Modellmog", followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line that extends to the right.

Hala Modellmog
President and CEO
Metro Atlanta Chamber



April 5, 2017

The Honorable Rex Tillerson
Secretary
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Elaine Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Re: U.S. Airline Competitiveness

Dear Secretary Tillerson and Secretary Chao:

I am writing to draw attention to the serious threat to the U.S. aviation industry posed by the massive subsidies Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are providing to their state-owned airlines. These subsidies have allowed the three state-owned Gulf carriers – Qatar Airways, Etihad Airways, and Emirates Airlines – to dramatically increase capacity and lower prices, forcing U.S. carriers to abandon international routes and putting U.S. aviation jobs at risk.

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The unfair competition caused by the Gulf carriers' massive government subsidies poses a direct threat to U.S. jobs. Experts estimate that for every international roundtrip flight dropped by a U.S. airline, over 1,500 American jobs are lost. For the past ten years, the Gulf carriers have become increasingly aggressive in expanding capacity to push U.S. carriers off international routes. Now the Gulf carriers are targeting routes between the United States and Europe. Emirates flies a nonstop route from New York City to Milan, Italy, and recently introduced a second nonstop route from New York City to Athens, Greece. These so-called "fifth freedom"

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Thank you for your time and consideration.



Seth Millican

Executive Director, Georgia Transportation Alliance