

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal government body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, Congress will soon be acting on legislation to reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and this Nation's aviation infrastructure programs; and

WHEREAS, federal statute has for over 15 years capped the Passenger Facility Charge (PFC), a local user fee that may be collected by airports to invest in vital airport modernization projects; and

WHEREAS, modern airports are critical to our ability to attract international travelers, expand opportunities for American businesses and create jobs in our cities and states in an increasingly globalized economy; and

WHEREAS, air travel in the United States is projected to nearly double over the next 20 years, while FAA forecasts an annual \$2.2 billion shortfall to pay for the airport improvements needed to handle this growing traffic; and

WHEREAS, Congress last adjusted the federal cap on the local airport user fee to \$4.50 per departing passenger. Since that time, post-9/11 security needs, aging infrastructure, 15 years of inflation and record passenger numbers are stretching airport resources. The PFC now has about half the purchasing power that it did in 2000, while infrastructure needs are greater than ever. In 2014, the Skytrax survey of the world's airports found not one American airport listed among the world's 25 top rated; and

WHEREAS, lifting the PFC cap does not raise any costs for the federal budget, but it allows local government the option to raise billions of dollars for needed airport projects; and

WHEREAS, these billions of additional dollars will create tens of thousands of jobs across the country, spurring the construction, aviation and travel industries; and

WHEREAS, any airport that collects PFCs uses these fees based on local priorities to expand capacity, reduce travel delays and lines, and build modern infrastructure to support long term economic growth; and

WHEREAS, at Los Angeles International Airport, a PFC increase will be used to fund an Automated People Mover, a key component of the future ground transportation system that will link the Metro Crenshaw and Green Lines, the Consolidated Rental Car Facility, municipal bus lines, other commercial shuttles, and new public parking facilities to the Central Terminal Area. This project is vital for reducing vehicular congestion around the airport and transforming LAX into a world class gateway that our City deserves;

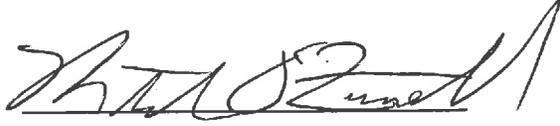
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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by adoption of this resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby includes in its 2015-16 Federal Legislative Program SUPPORT for any legislative or administrative action that would authorize the Federal Aviation Administration to increase the statutory cap on the Passenger Facility Charge so as to allow local governments to build the airport infrastructure needed in each community.

PRESENTED BY: 
MIKE BONIN
Councilmember, 11th District

SECONDED BY: 

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