March 29, 2017

Congressman Frank A. LoBiondo, Chairman
House Subcommittee on Aviation
2251 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Re: H.R. 598 – Airplane Impacts Mitigation Act of 2017

Dear Congressman LoBiondo:

The Los Angeles International Airport/Community Noise Roundtable (Roundtable) is a voluntary and independent body whose membership consists of local elected officials, representatives of congressional offices, members of recognized community groups, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), airlines, and Los Angeles World Airports. These parties work together to identify aircraft noise issues that affect communities surrounding Los Angeles International Airport, and to seek feasible solutions to reduce noise over those affected communities when possible.

On behalf of the Roundtable, I am writing to you regarding H.R. 598 Airplane Impacts Mitigation Act of 2017, a bill that directs the FAA to conduct a study examining the health effects of residents living under flight paths in certain metropolitan areas where the implementation of FAA’s NextGen program has occurred. The metropolitan areas included in the bill consist of Boston, Chicago, New York, the Northern California Metropole, Phoenix, and up to three additional metropolitan areas.

As H.R. 598 has been referred to the House Subcommittee on Aviation for further consideration, the Roundtable would like to take this opportunity to express its full support for this legislation and urge the subcommittee members to provide a favorable recommendation on this legislation. The Roundtable membership believes that this study will provide valuable information pertaining to the health effects on individuals living under flight paths, as aircraft noise adversely affects the daily lives of many residents and impacts the quality of life in these communities.

Due to the value and importance the Roundtable places on the H.R.598 study, we respectfully request that the subcommittee members consider including the Los Angeles Region in this study. The FAA has recently begun implementation of the Southern California Metropole project, which includes numerous procedure changes that have been already implemented or are scheduled to be implemented by April 2017. The use of these new flight procedures will change where and how aircraft fly and may potentially affect residents in the Los Angeles Region.

The Roundtable urges you to support H.R. 598, and thanks you for your consideration of our request to include the Los Angeles Region as one of the study areas.
The position stated in this letter is the opinion of the majority of the Roundtable's membership and not the official position of the Federal Aviation Administration, the City of Los Angeles, or Los Angeles World Airports. Please address any correspondence to the LAX/Community Noise Roundtable, c/o Los Angeles World Airports, 1 World Way, P.O. Box 92216, Los Angeles, CA 90009-2216, and Attention: Kathryn Pantoja, Environmental Affairs Officer.

Sincerely,

Denny Schneider, Chairman
LAX/Community Noise Roundtable

cc: House Subcommittee on Aviation Members
H.R. 598 Sponsors
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Senator Kamala Harris
Congressman Ted Lieu
Congressman Alan Lowenthal
Congressman Ed Royce
Congresswoman Linda Sánchez
Congresswoman Judy Chu
Congresswoman Maxine Waters
Congresswoman Karen Bass