

POLICY RESOLUTION PR-21-06
TITLE: SUPPORT OF THE ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, Congress established the Essential Air Service Program as part of the Airline Deregulation Act of 1978, to help areas that face limited service; and

WHEREAS, the Act guaranteed that communities served by air carriers before deregulation would continue to receive a certain level of scheduled air service; and

WHEREAS the Act guaranteed continued service by authorizing USDOT to require carriers to continue providing service at these communities; and

WHEREAS, if an air carrier could not continue that service without incurring a loss, USDOT could then use the Essential Air Service Program funds to award the carrier a subsidy; and

WHEREAS, in 1988 Congress eliminated the sunset provisions, thereby permanently authorizing the Essential Air Service Program:

NOW, THEREFOR BE IT RESOLVED, by the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials that Congress and the Administration maintain and fully fund the Essential Air Service Program.