



May 16, 2018

The Honorable Gary Peters
U.S. Senate
724 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Cory Gardner
U.S. Senate
354 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Peters and Senator Gardner:

On behalf of the Security Industry Association (SIA), I would like to express our strong support for the Secure Airport Public Spaces Act, which will help address critical security needs at our nation's airports.

SIA is a non-profit international trade association representing nearly 900 companies that provide security and life safety solutions vital to enhancing public safety and protecting critical infrastructure. Many SIA members manufacture and integrate surveillance, access control and life safety systems utilized at airports to protect travelers every day throughout the United States.

The Act specifically allows the use of Airport Improvement Program (AIP) grant funds for installation of modern video surveillance systems in public, non-screened areas such as baggage claims or pick up and drop off areas. Under current FAA rules, this important funding source can only be utilized for such systems inside TSA-screened zones, which limits an airport's ability to field fully integrated security systems covering all public areas. The bill also encourages airports to use infrastructure improvement revenue collected through local passenger facility charges (PFCs) to address airport security needs.

As our nation's airports work to modernize and fully integrate their security infrastructure, they must be able to fully utilize existing sources of funding. Increasing traveler safety throughout unscreened areas is a critical need, demonstrated by the two terrorist attacks that occurred within such areas last year at U.S. airports.

Your legislation demonstrates a commitment to ensure that millions of Americans, visitors, and airport employees access the safest possible airport environments made possible through modernized infrastructure. We look forward to working with you and your colleagues in Congress to support swift passage and enactment of this important bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Erickson".

Don Erickson
CEO
Security Industry Association