

1 **2006 Fall Seminar**  
2 **Standing Committee on Transportation & Public Works**  
3 **Resolution #02**

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5 **RESOLUTION CALLING FOR INCREASED FUNDING FOR AIRPORTS**  
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7 **WHEREAS**, airports play a critical role in New York State's economic  
8 infrastructure; and  
9

10 **WHEREAS**, airports provide essential air service and general aviation functions  
11 for all of New York's local and regional communities; and  
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13 **WHEREAS**, the New York State Department of Transportation estimates that  
14 over \$35 billion in annual economic activity is attributable to aviation, equivalent to  
15 4.3% of the Gross State Product; and  
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17 **WHEREAS**, the New York State Department of Transportation estimates  
18 approximately 350,000 New York State residents owe their jobs directly or indirectly to  
19 aviation, representing over 4% of all jobs in the State; and  
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21 **WHEREAS**, funding provided through the Transportation Bond Act of 2005 was  
22 helpful, but inadequate, to meet the many airport infrastructure funding needs across the  
23 state; and  
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25 **WHEREAS**, many neighboring and nearby states provide sales tax relief for the  
26 purchase of general aviation aircraft, thereby putting New York State at a significant  
27 competitive disadvantage, which consequently discourages businesses from buying and  
28 basing aircraft within the State; and  
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30 **WHEREAS**, this competitive disadvantage is particularly troublesome given the  
31 current emergence of the very light jet (VLJ) market which is expected to significantly  
32 impact business aviation demand within the next few years; and  
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34 **WHEREAS**, currently, New York State does not spend the entire allocation  
35 reserved for the State matching share of the federal Airport Improvement Program (AIP),  
36 and does not release such unused funds for use in other purpose by State airports:  
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38 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the New York State  
39 Association of Counties (NYSAC) calls upon the Governor and the State Legislature to  
40 commit additional state resources by identifying a dedicated revenue stream to provide  
41 reoccurring and reliable funding for the maintenance and operation of New York State  
42 airports; and  
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44 **BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC additionally calls upon the State of  
45 New York to increase funding for airport capital improvements allowing for the

1 promotion of a safe and efficient air transportation system throughout New York State;  
2 and

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4 **BE IT FUTURE RESOLVED**, that NYSAC calls upon the State of New York  
5 to support sales tax relief for the purchase of general aviation aircraft in order to foster  
6 competitive equality with neighboring states and to equip New York State aviation  
7 businesses to grow, create jobs, support communities and thrive; and

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9 **BE IT FUTURE RESOLVED**, that NYSAC calls upon the State of New York  
10 to make necessary legislative and programmatic changes to enable unused funds  
11 allocated for the state share of the federal AIP program to be used for airport  
12 development projects; and

13  
14 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that NYSAC shall forward copies of this  
15 Resolution to the Governor, the New York State Legislature and all others deemed  
16 necessary and proper.