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## **Association for Airline Passenger Rights Urges Congress to Reconcile Legislation on FAA Reauthorization & Passenger Bill of Rights; Law aims to improve air travel and protect passengers rights**

WASHINGTON, D.C. (March 25, 2010) – The [Association for Airline Passenger Rights](http://www.flyfriendlyskies.com) (AAPR) today urged the Congress to act quickly to approve the FAA Reauthorization Act, which has now been approved by both the United States House of Representative and United States Senate. The far-reaching legislation, among other things, would replace antiquated air traffic control technology, improve safety measures and codify the long-awaited passenger rights provisions.

The House of Representatives approved legislation reauthorizing the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in May 2009 by a bipartisan vote of 277-136. The House version must now be reconciled with the Senate-passed bill, which was approved by a 93-0 vote earlier this week. AAPR supports many of the legislation’s provisions, including the Passenger Bill of Rights.

“The time to debate this important piece of legislation is over, and now the Congress must act quickly to implement this law which is designed to improve all aspects of our nation’s air travel – as well as strengthening more consumer protections,” said **Brandon M. Macsata**, Executive Director of the Association for Airline Passenger Rights of the FAA Reauthorization Act. “We’re on the one yard line and we’re close to ensuring that passengers will be treated with dignity and respect by the commercial airlines, ending the days of excessive tarmac delays.”

According to the passenger rights provisions, domestic airlines will be required to provide food and water during excessive delays, maintain working lavatories and when necessary, provide appropriate medical attention and allow stranded passengers to deplane after a three-hour wait.

In December 2009, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) issued federal regulations limiting the amount of time airline passengers can be stranded on the tarmac. Once in effect the new regulation will implement key provisions of the Passenger Bill of Rights, and allow stranded passengers to deplane after three hours on the tarmac. AAPR and other consumer rights groups continue to lobby for Congress to further protect airline passengers by enacting the law.

For more information about the Association for Airline Passenger Rights or the need for a strong, meaningful Passenger Bill of Rights, please visit [www.flyfriendlyskies.com](http://www.flyfriendlyskies.com) or contact AAPR directly at [info@flyfriendlyskies.com](mailto:info@flyfriendlyskies.com).

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**About AAPR:** The Association for Airline Passenger Rights is a 501(c)(4) tax-exempt, nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote fairer customer service and accessibility standards in the airline industry and to improve passenger satisfaction. AAPR was formed in response to growing dissatisfaction among American consumers toward the airline industry.