

**Association for Airline Passenger Rights (AAPR)**

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## **Association for Airline Passenger Rights Applauds Legislation Introduced by Representative Jason Chaffetz to Require Parental Supervision During the Pat-Down of a Child; Legislation spurred by YouTube video showing TSA conducting invasive search of a child**

WASHINGTON, D.C. (April 19, 2011) – The [Association for Airline Passenger Rights](http://www.flyfriendlyskies.com) (“AAPR”) today applauded U.S. Representative Jason Chaffetz (R-UT) leadership for introducing legislation to curb abusive practices by the Transportation Security Administration (“TSA”). The legislation, “TSA Screening of Minors Act of 2011” ([H.R. 1510](http://www.congress.gov/bills/112/1510)), would amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit a pat down search of minor for purposes of air transportation security without the consent and presence of a parent of the minor, and for other purposes.

TSA made headlines again last week when a [video](#) appeared on YouTube showing a TSA agent conducting an invasive search of a six-year old girl despite her parents’ objections. Rep. Chaffetz’s legislation would require parental consent for searches to be executed on a minor, or in cases of unaccompanied minors, conducted in the presence of a representative of the air carrier or foreign air carrier undertaking to provide air transportation or foreign air transportation, respectively, for which the search is conducted.

“Enough is enough and airline passengers are growing increasingly frustrated over what they perceive as an agency with a flagrant disregard for the rights of its own citizens,” stated **Brandon M. Macsata**, Executive Director of the Association for Airline Passenger Rights. “TSA is supposed to ensuring air travel is safe, which clearly isn’t being accomplished when young children are being screened as we witnessed last week. Sooner or later, TSA will accept that their blanket one-size-fits-all approach to searches and screenings doesn’t make air travel any safer – in fact, it makes it less safe because it pulls limited staff and resources from other techniques that are more effective.”

Prior to introducing his legislation, Rep. Chaffetz said, “The agency must get serious about the manner in which it seeks to balance national security with personal privacy. At the very least, it cannot continue to operate under the belief that little girls and handicapped children pose such a serious threat that TSOs must abandon all manner of decency when interacting with them.”

H.R.1510 can be viewed online at: <http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?c112:H.R.1510>:

For more information about the Association for Airline Passenger Rights or passenger concerns over TSA’s invasive full-body searches, 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.