

Association for Airline Passenger Rights (AAPR)

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Association for Airline Passenger Rights Welcomes TSA Ending its “Shoes Off” Security Screenings; other changes also expected

WASHINGTON, D.C. (September 6, 2011) – The [Association for Airline Passenger Rights](http://www.flyfriendlyskies.com) (AAPR) today welcomed the news that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (“HS”) and Transportation Security Administration (“TSA”) were moving toward revisions to airport security screening procedures – including allowing passengers to keep on their shoes. TSA’s “shoes off” policy has been in effect since 2001, despite its questionable effectiveness.

Speaking Tuesday morning in Washington, HS Secretary Janet Napolitano said that the “shoes off” security screening policy was coming to an end. The United States is only one of a handful of countries that enforces what is widely seen as an outdated policy.

“We welcome the good news about TSA finally revising its outdated policy that has required all airline travelers to remove their shoes while going through security,” argued **Brandon M. Macsata**, Executive Director of the Association for Airline Passenger Rights. “Instead of leading by example, TSA stubbornness over its “shoes off” policy led to airline passengers being inconvenienced by longer security lines with little measureable impact on improved security. While AAPR strongly supports policies designed to make flying safer, we also expect common sense policies that demonstrate their effectiveness. The ‘shoes off’ policy failed to meet that standard.”

The story was first reported online by POLITICO: <http://www.politico.com/news/stories/0911/62705.html>.

For more information about the Association for Airline Passenger Rights or TSA, please visit www.flyfriendlyskies.com or contact AAPR directly at 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.