

## LARSON SHARPLY CRITICAL OF REPUBLICAN AVIATION SECURITY LEGISLATION

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WASHINGTON, D.C.—U.S. Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01) issued the following statement on the Aviation Security legislation that was voted on in the House of Representatives this evening.

Larson stated: "National security in our airports should not be determined by the lowest bidder. It should be done by trained law enforcement professionals because the public deserves nothing less.

"The Senate unanimously passed a bipartisan version of the legislation which made airport security a federal responsibility, and I strongly disagree with the few members of the Republican leadership in the House that politicized this issue. Under the current system, the safety of passengers is in the hands of poorly paid, low skilled employees of private companies that experience extremely high turnover rates, leaving security at our airports both inadequate and inconsistent. The Democratic version of this legislation ensures that security at our airports would be the responsibility of professionals who are well trained and highly skilled," said Larson.

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