

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

September 1, 2022

Dear Senator Durbin:

I am writing to you concerning Essential Air Service (EAS) to the region of Quincy Illinois as well as the communities of Burlington Iowa and Kirksville Missouri.

Recently both Quincy and Burlington were given notice that the airline under contract to provide EAS service Cape Air (Hyannis Air Service) would be canceling their contract agreement with both communities due to a shortage of qualified pilots. They have been allowed to do this while still offering new bids to provide their service to other communities.

In review of the situation concerning other EAS services, it appears that some 30 out 100 communities located in the continental U.S. have been given similar notices of canceling such agreements in the last 150 days.

While both Quincy and Burlington have been given notice of termination, the community of Kirksville Missouri looks to retain service by Cape Air going to and from St. Louis. All three communities are within some 80 miles of one another.

Based on these facts I would like to put forth the proposal that the U.S. Department of Transportation look at how shared flights between the communities of Quincy, Burlington, and Kirksville could be bundled together to increase and maximize passenger traffic for the airline or airlines serving these three communities and increase their revenue and income.

Quincy and other EAS locations are now in the 44<sup>th</sup> year of a program that was meant to sundown in 1988, Ten years after the deregulation of the Airline passenger transportation in this country.

As a taxpayer I would like to see passenger airline service continue to these communities, but I would also like to see the amount of federal subsidies be reduced as much as possible.

I have posted eight public comments on Regulations.gov DOT-OST-2003-14492 concerning air service for Quincy Illinois. As a citizen of the community, I have not been please by the actions over the past 4 years concerning reasons and choices but at this point I am reconciled to having been relegated to have smaller 9 passenger aircraft service the community. However, I would like to see faster and what I consider safer twin engine aircraft service our community. Right now, the city of Quincy has been reconciled to approved service with an aircraft that is single engine Cessna 208B that I understand was originally designed to carry freight and later designed to also carry passengers.

I would appreciate your review and action on this matter.

Sincerely,



Donald J. Carpenter

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