



April 3, 2020

Joel Szabat
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Szabat:

We support SkyWest Airlines request to temporarily reduce service for a 90 day period to a single daily flight. We anticipate this period to start as early as April 10, 2020 and conclude on or around June 30th, 2020. Due to the massive passenger reductions suffered under the COVID-19 pandemic our traffic has declined to very minimal levels.

We request that the DOT continue to pay SkyWest 100% of the full subsidy they would have received for operating a full schedule and apply that subsidy to the single daily flight. This will help SkyWest survive a precarious situation and help to partially compensate for all of the lost passenger revenue that is now missing from our flights. It would also retain our daily connection to the national transportation system and would continue to facilitate essential travel and the shipment of supplies.

We have enjoyed our relationship with SkyWest and want them to remain our Essential Air Service carrier. We recognize this temporary action will help facilitate the survival of SkyWest in the short term – and therefore insure uninterrupted service both now and into the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Thomas E. Heanue', is positioned above the printed name.

Thomas E. Heanue
Executive Director
Hattiesburg-Laurel Regional Airport (PIB)