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66th Legislative District

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Harrisburg
June 29, 2020

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Mr. David E. Short
Deputy Assistant Secretary
Aviation and International Affairs
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Mr. Short

It is with great pleasure that I write to you today to express my full support for Southern Airways Express (Southern) to continue their service through the DuBois Regional Airport (DUJ) under the operation by Clearfield-Jefferson Counties Regional Airport Authority (the Authority) for another two years.

The Authority has the ability to provide affordable and reliable air travel options to and from the Clearfield, Jefferson and Elk County region.

Year to date, Southern's reliability rate is around 98% - 99%, only having one flight cancelled in January due to inclement weather. In June and July 2019, Southern was able to attain 100% reliability rate.

The average rate for a round trip flight from DUJ to Baltimore or Pittsburgh International Airport has been \$61 and from this cost-effective standpoint alone, the world for our rural region is open for business or leisure while utilizing major airline connections with carriers such as Southwest, United, American, British Airways and Condor Airlines.

According to the Authority, "locally, passengers in the Tri-County area account for 35% of the total travelers while up to 65% come from an area outside of the area proving that DUJ is a major vehicle to the economic development and impact to our local business communities."

For these reasons noted above, I respectfully ask for your favorable consideration and support for Southern Airways Express to provide another two-years of service to our Tri-County Region.

I want to thank you in advance for your time and attention towards this request. If I may be of further assistance, you may contact me at my Brookville office at 814-849-8008.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cris Dush".

Cris Dush
State Representative
66th Legislative District