



RESOLUTION 2011 - 08

A RESOLUTION OF THE SOUTHWEST ALASKA MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE IN SUPPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference (SWAMC) is a regional organization that strives to advocate for the needs of rural communities; and

WHEREAS, the Essential Air Service (EAS) program is critical to rural Alaskan communities, assuring air service to forty-four communities in Alaska that might not otherwise be guaranteed air service; and

WHEREAS, sixteen of the forty-four Alaskan communities in the EAS program are within the SWAMC region, including Adak, Nikolski, Atka, Akutan, Port Bailey, Port Williams, West Point, Uganik, Zachar Bay, Seal Bay, Olga Bay, Moser Bay, Kitoi Bay, Amook Bay, Alitak and Karluk; and

WHEREAS, the FAA Air Transportation Modernization and Safety Improvement Act, or S.223, is currently legislation before the 112th Congress of the United States; and

WHEREAS, Senator John McCain of Arizona has submitted an amendment S.AMDT.4 to S.223, to repeal the Essential Air Service Program; and

WHEREAS, the elimination of the Essential Air Service Program will have a devastating effect on rural Alaskan communities that depend on air transportation.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference supports continuation of the Essential Air Service program that is critical to many rural communities in Alaska; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference requests the Alaska Congressional Delegation to support Alaska’s rural communities by preserving the EAS program as part of the FAA Air Transportation Modernization and Safety Improvement Act.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the Southwest Alaska Municipal Conference Membership this 11 day of February, 2011.

Signed:

Attest:

Alice Ruby, President

Andy Varner, Executive Director