

U.S. TRAVEL ASSOCIATION

June 18, 2015

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

The Honorable John F. Kerry
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

The Honorable Penny S. Pritzker
Secretary of Commerce
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Foxx, Secretary Kerry and Secretary Pritzker:

We are writing to express our strong support for America's Open Skies policy and our strong opposition to freezing new routes or flights by the Gulf carriers, Emirates, Etihad Airways and Qatar Airways. Such a move would effectively breach U.S. Open Skies agreements with the United Arab Emirates and Qatar.

The U.S. has negotiated more than 100 Open Skies agreements with friendly governments around the world, creating a highly competitive international travel market that delivers greater consumer choice and lower airfares for passengers. Many U.S. cities and destinations that were once largely shut out of the international travel market now enjoy new access to international travelers because of Open Skies.

As you know, expanding international travel is a key component of the U.S. travel industry's growth strategy over the coming decades. Millions of potential travelers from the rising middle class in India, Asia and the Middle East represent the market of the future for hundreds of American cities and destinations, thousands of American business that depend on travel and millions of American jobs supported by travel spending. These are precisely the markets well served by the Gulf carriers and underserved by U.S. legacy carriers.

In considering the U.S. legacy carriers' request, we hope you will take the interests of the entire U.S. travel industry into account and protect U.S. Open Skies agreements. Preserving U.S. Open Skies

agreements is critical to reaching the Obama Administration's goal of attracting 100 million international visitors per year by 2021 – a goal we wholeheartedly endorse and are committed to achieving.

Sincerely,

Albany County Convention & Visitors Bureau
Albany, NY

Central Oregon Visitors Association
Bend, OR

Albuquerque Convention and Visitors Bureau
Albuquerque, NM

Citadel Outlets
Los Angeles, CA

Amadeo Travel Solutions
New York, NY

CityPASS
Victor, ID

American Bus Association
Washington, DC

Convention Industry Council
Alexandria, VA

Anchorage Convention & Visitors Bureau
Anchorage, AK

CouProm Inc.
New York, NY

Annapolis & Anne Arundel County
Conference & Visitors Bureau
Annapolis, MD

Destination Gettysburg
Gettysburg, PA

Attractions4us
New York, NY

Destination Marketing Association
International
Washington, DC

Best Western International, Inc.
Phoenix, AZ

Discover Lehigh Valley
Allentown, PA

B-FOR International
Fredericksburg, VA

Discover Newport
Newport, RI

Bonotel Exclusive Travel
Las Vegas, NV

Everglades Tours
Weston, FL

Caesars Entertainment Inc.
Las Vegas, NV

Explore Brooklyn
Brooklyn, NY

California Association of Boutique &
Breakfast Inns
Sacramento, CA

Extranomical Tours
San Francisco, CA

California Hotel & Lodging Association
Sacramento, CA

Florida Travel Network
St. Petersburg, FL

Fort Worth Convention & Visitors Bureau
Fort Worth, TX

FRHI Hotels & Resorts
Chicago, IL

Global Hospitality Marketing Link
St. Petersburg, FL

Goulding's Lodge and Tours
Oljato-Monument Valley, UT

Gray Line of Orlando
Orlando, FL

Greater Orlando Aviation Authority
Orlando, FL

Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors
Bureau
Raleigh, NC

Handlery Hotels
San Diego, CA

Heritage House Hotel
Hyannis, MA

Hilton Worldwide
McLean, VA

Historic Tours of America
Key West, FL

Hornblower Cruises & Events
San Francisco, CA

Host Hotels & Resorts, Inc.
Bethesda, MD

Hotel Association of Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA

Howard County Tourism & Promotion
Ellicott City, MD

Hyatt Hotels Corporation
Chicago, IL

InterContinental Hotels Group
Atlanta, GA

International Association of Exhibitions and
Events
Dallas, TX

ITA Group
West Des Moines, IA

Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and
Tourism
Topeka, KS

Kentucky Department of Travel & Tourism
Frankfort, KY

Lake Charles Convention & Visitors Bureau
Lake Charles, LA

Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce
Las Vegas, NV

Las Vegas Sands Corporation
Las Vegas, NV

Lee County Visitor & Convention Bureau
Fort Myers, FL

Loews Hotels and Resorts
New York, NY

Los Angeles World Airports
Los Angeles, CA

Louisiana Travel Promotion Association
Baton Rouge, LA

Louisville Convention & Visitors Bureau
Louisville, KY

Magic Stars Vacations
Orlando, FL

Mammoth Lakes Tourism
Mammoth Lakes, CA

Marseilles Hotel
Miami Beach, FL

Martha's Vineyard Chamber of Commerce
Vineyard Haven, MA

Meet AC
Atlantic City, NJ

Meetings Professional International
Dallas, TX

MGM Resorts International
Las Vegas, NV

Millenium Management Corporation
Orlando, FL

Mise en Place
Tampa, FL

Myrtle Beach Area Convention and Visitors
Bureau
Myrtle Beach, SC

Naples, Marco Island, Everglades Convention
& Visitors Bureau
Naples, FL

National Geographic Traveler
Washington, DC

National Restaurant Association
Washington, DC

Natural Bridge Caverns
San Antonio, TX

Nickelodeon Suites Resort
Orlando, FL

North America Destinations
Orlando, FL

nSight Travel Intelligence
Nashville, TN

One Way VIP Transportation, Inc.
Miami, FL

Opportunities Unlimited
Washington, DC

Paducah Convention & Visitors Bureau
Paducah, KY

Papillon Group
Las Vegas, NV

Philadelphia Convention & Visitors Bureau
Philadelphia, PA

Pier 39
San Francisco, CA

Pismo Beach Conference & Visitors Bureau
Pismo Beach, CA

Prescott Office of Tourism
Prescott, AZ

Providence Warwick Convention & Visitors
Bureau
Providence, RI

Randolph County Tourism Development
Authority
Asheboro, NC

Randy A. Garfield & Advisors
Orlando, FL

Receptive Services Association of America
Lexington, KY

Red Lion Hotels Corporation
Spokane, WA

Roger Brooks International
Renton, WA

Sabre
Southlake, TX

San Diego Tourism Authority
San Diego, CA

Santa Monica Convention & Visitors Bureau
Santa Monica, CA

Select Registry
Charleston, SC

Sioux Falls Convention & Visitors Bureau
Sioux Falls, SD

Society of Independent Show Organizers
Santa Monica, CA

Solvang Conference & Visitors Bureau
Solvang, CA

Sonoma County Tourism
Santa Rosa, CA

South Dakota Department of Tourism
Pierre, SD

St. Petersburg/Clearwater Area Convention &
Visitor Bureau
Seminole, FL

STR, Inc.
Hendersonville, TN

Student & Youth Travel Association
McLean, VA

Sunny Isles Beach Tourism & Marketing
Council
Sunny Isles Beach, FL

TeamAmerica Inc.
New York, NY

The New York Nightlife
New York, NY

Trailways Transportation System, Inc.
Fairfax, VA

Travalco USA, Inc.
Hallandale Beach, FL

Travel Oregon
Salem, OR

Travel Portland
Portland, OR

U.S. Cultural & Heritage Tourism Marketing
Council
Hilton Head Island, SC

Utah's Canyon Country/San Juan County
Monticello, UT

Virginia Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau
Virginia Beach, VA

Visit California
Sacramento, CA

Visit Huntington Beach
Huntington Beach, CA

Visit Jacksonville
Jacksonville, FL

Visit Mesa
Mesa, AZ

Visit Plano
Plano, TX

Visit Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, CA

Visit Sarasota County
Sarasota, FL

Visit Savannah
Savannah, GA

Visit Stockton
Stockton, CA

Visit Tampa Bay
Tampa, FL

Visit West Hollywood
West Hollywood, CA

Wild Florida
Kenansville, FL

Windigo
Santa Rosa, CA

Wyndham Hotel Group
Parsippany, NJ

Yosemite/Mariposa County Tourism Bureau
Mariposa, CA

Zimble Rentals Inc.
Boynton Beach, FL