



April 11, 2024

The Honorable Dave Cortese  
Chair, Senate Transportation Committee  
California State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 405  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Opposition to Senate Bill 1372 (As Amended March 18, 2024)**

Dear Chairman Cortese:

On behalf of our California customers and frequent fliers, we are writing in opposition to Senate Bill 1372 (Newman), which not only threatens to increase fees on air carriers but also severely restricts airports' ability to effectively manage lines at the security checkpoint, resulting in a negative travel experience for our California customers.

California's commercial airports are a major driver of economic activity in the state, and they work hand in hand with air carriers and other airport stakeholders to deliver an outstanding passenger experience. Air carriers already generate a significant portion of the revenue airports rely on to help maintain their facilities and make infrastructure and technology investments. In addition to landing fees, air carriers also pay parking fees, space and equipment rental fees, terminal usage fees, *etc.* Given SB 1372's elimination of \$13 million in revenue currently paid by CLEAR, nmwe are concerned that the bill's passage could further increase air carrier operating costs in the state, potentially resulting in increased fares or decreased service options.

Moreover, by preventing airports from partnering with CLEAR, we are concerned SB 1372 will result in longer, less efficient lines at the security checkpoint. In 2023 alone, CLEAR verified our frequent fliers over 5 million times in California – which means our most loyal customers find value in using CLEAR. Not only do they appreciate the customer service they receive from CLEAR's hospitality-trained ambassadors, but we find that CLEAR's operation supports overall

checkpoint efficiency for all travelers by helping balance queues and by performing quick and secure identity checks across the airports where they operate. Customers who travel frequently have come to rely on CLEAR and the choice it provides them for a touchless airport security experience at the airport.

CLEAR's partnerships with airports and airlines alike has helped enhance the security experience and overall airport journey for our customers; their presence in California's airports delivers value and benefits for us, our customers and for the airports in our network. For these reasons, we respectfully urge you to oppose SB 1372.

Sincerely,

Scott Kennedy  
Alaska Airlines

Dana Debel  
Delta Air Lines

Blaine Miyasato  
Hawaiian Airlines

Ruben Zaragoza  
Southwest Airlines

Papia Gambelin  
United Airlines

April Adams  
Jet Blue Airlines