



March 3, 2008

Honorable Ted Lieu  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol  
VIA FAX  
Sacramento, CA

**RE: AB 1407--Support**

Dear Assemblymember Lieu:

The Service Employees International Union is proud to support and co-sponsor AB 1407, for an Airline Passengers' Bill of Rights.

SEIU Airport Workers United, includes skycaps, wheelchair attendants, baggage handlers, TSA screeners and other security personnel, janitors and plane cleaners and many other workers. Together, these workers play a vital role in ensuring that California airports are safe and secure places where passengers receive quality service.

Today, airlines throughout California and the nation have chosen to rely increasingly on an array of contractors to provide critical safety, security and service functions for passengers. Contracted airline workers consistently raise concerns of insufficient staffing, inadequate training, or irresponsible contractors violating airport or airline policies established to ensure that passengers are treated fairly and with respect.

Unfortunately, airlines have almost uniformly refused to participate in meaningful efforts to raise standards for this contracted workforce. The fates of passengers and of contracted airline workers are very much intertwined. SEIU Airport Workers United is already working with passenger organizations – most recently working with organizations representing passengers with disabilities – to push for improved training, adequate staffing and a reduction in worker turnover.

AB 1407, the Airline Passenger Bill of Rights, opens a door to state regulation of passenger access, health and safety that airlines and their contractors have too long kept closed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Allen Davenport". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Allen Davenport  
Director of Government Relations

cc: Members, Senate Committee on Energy Utilities and Communication  
Committee Consultant

**CALIFORNIA  
STATE COUNCIL**

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