



Here's the Truth About the Future of Air Travel in the U.S.

This airline (and others) have been feeding passengers like you a steady string of lies about a serious issue that will affect all airline passengers: how the FAA is funded and managed in the future. Why? Because the airlines are — again — looking for another huge tax break from the government (that means taxpayers — like you).

Smart Skies? Hardly.

The airlines — through their trade organization the Airline Transport Association — are promoting something they call “Smart Skies.” But sadly, they have resorted to misstatements, distortions, and outright lies to try to make their case for improving their bottom line at taxpayer expense. They say...

- Airline delays are because of the Air Traffic Control (ATC) system and too many corporate aircraft (general aviation)
- The efficient way the FAA is funded needs to be modernized
- The airlines pay more than their “fair share” of costs to run the FAA
- That satellites aren't being used in the ATC system

It probably won't surprise you to learn that they, in every part of their argument, **distorted the facts.**

The facts

- A recent Dept. of Transportation report said that the delays are a result of weather ... or the way the airlines schedule themselves ... not corporate jets.
- While the airlines claim that corporate jets outnumber airliners, that tells only a tiny piece of the story. Airliners spend many more hours in the air traffic control system than corporate jets — typically 3,805 hours a year for an airliner versus 370 hours for the corporate aircraft. Look out the window at the airport; how many corporate aircraft do you see?
- The airlines pay more because they use far more of the system (that was primarily designed for them) than anyone else.
- Satellites are — today — an essential part of air navigation.
- The FAA's 40-year-old funding system has resulted in nothing less than the largest, safest, most efficient air transportation system in the world!

Perks... but for whom?

Any of these other statements is just *another* effort to mask the ways the airlines run their business. What do the airlines *really* want? *Another* bailout, *another* major tax break, *another* loan guarantee. In the last decade these have totaled more than \$37 billion!

You deserve to know the truth.

Before the airlines try to change a good thing, we urge you to visit www.aviationacrossamerica.org today. There you'll learn how and why our air transportation system is the envy of the world. And why it's so important to keep it that way. Have a good flight.

Placed in this magazine by a fellow traveler and concerned pilot.