



Senators Feinstein, Boxer Announce DOT Approval
Of New LAX to DC non-stop flight
April 1, 2004

Washington, DC – California Senators Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein announced today that the Department of Transportation has authorized Alaska Airlines to soon begin daily non-stop service between Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA).

“Being such an important travel route for Californians and, indeed, travelers from all over the world, this is very welcome news,” said Senator Feinstein.

“I am so pleased for my Los Angeles constituents,” added Senator Boxer. **“This development is long overdue.”**

The Senators had both lobbied Transportation Secretary Norman Y. Mineta for the new flight capacity, citing the huge demand for nonstop flights between California and Washington, D.C. and the interest of many airlines in providing coast-to-coast service.

There have been no non-stop flights between LAX and Reagan National since 2001 when Trans World Airlines (TWA) declared bankruptcy and California lost its two “slot exemptions.” Alaska Airlines received two new slot exemptions allowing one flight from LAX to DCA and one flight from DCA to LAX each day.

New slot exemptions were authorized in the recent Vision-100 – Century of Flight Aviation Authorization Act signed by President Bush on Dec. 12. The legislation directed DOT to award 12 additional slot exemptions at Reagan National for flights from more than 1,250 miles from the airport.

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