

HB 639/SB 505: Transportation - Aviation - Passenger Health and Safety (Aviation Health and Safety Act): Please vote to **OPPOSE** this bill.

Dear Environment and Transportation Committee and Finance Committee:

I am writing to respectfully **oppose HB 639/SB 505**, concerning *Transportation – Aviation – Passenger Health and Safety (Aviation Health and Safety Act)*.

While passenger health and safety are unquestionably important, **HB 639/SB 505** raises significant concerns regarding state overreach into an area that is already heavily regulated at the federal level. **Aviation safety standards, aircraft operations, and passenger health protocols are primarily governed by federal authorities to ensure uniformity across states. Creating additional state-level mandates risks regulatory conflict, duplication, and operational confusion.**

Air travel is inherently interstate in nature. A patchwork of differing state requirements could impose compliance burdens on airlines, increase operational costs, and ultimately result in higher ticket prices for Maryland travelers.

Consistency in aviation regulation is critical for maintaining efficiency, safety, and reliability within the national air transportation system.

Additionally, imposing new state-specific requirements may place Maryland airports at a competitive disadvantage compared to neighboring states, potentially impacting tourism, commerce, and business travel.

Public health and safety should certainly be safeguarded, but policy solutions should be coordinated within existing federal frameworks rather than layered on in a way that creates uncertainty and added expense.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to **oppose HB 639/SB 505**.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

Respectfully,

Trudy Tibbals