



The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kirsten E. Gillibrand
United States Senate
478 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators:

We are writing to you regarding aircraft noise and pollution issues that have been affecting Flushing, New York. You have already done much on this issue to help our area of the state, and for that we would like to express our sincerest appreciation and gratitude. As you and your colleagues begin work on legislation that would reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration, we also ask that you give particular consideration to the issue of acceptable noise threshold levels.

Many parts of Flushing, particularly its downtown areas, have experienced dramatic growth in recent years. In addition to being one of the busiest and most congested neighborhoods in New York, it is also located right next to the international LaGuardia Airport. Severe aircraft noise levels and pollution have been a major, recurring issue for our constituents. They have been forced to endure constant, unbearable noise levels for too many years without mitigation. As of now, the Port Authority's Part 150 Study that our community worked so hard to secure is still being conducted.

A key change we would like you to consider is the lowering of the noise threshold from 65 NDL to 55 DNL. The latter threshold has become the accepted default threshold for most of the world's countries, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the World Health Organization. A recent medical study even showed that noise levels above 55 DNL increase health risks for cardiovascular diseases. With such a broad consensus, it is clear that the consequences of noise pollution can no longer be limited to a quality of life issue, but must now also be viewed as a serious health concern.

A lowered 55 DNL threshold would have an invaluable effect on the lives of our constituents, many of whom live under some of the busiest flight routes in the world. In the course of the FAA reauthorization process, we ask that you seriously consider legislation that would lower the noise threshold standards from 65 DNL to 55 DNL. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Kim". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ron" and last name "Kim" clearly distinguishable.

Ron Kim
Member of Assembly
District 40, Queens

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nily Rozic". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Nily" and last name "Rozic" clearly distinguishable.

Nily Rozic
Member of Assembly
District 25, Queens