

We need someone to donate a plane ticket/miles to fly Kate on Tuesday, July 24 from SF, Oakland, Sacramento or San Jose to Dulles, Reagan or BWI and back on Friday night or Saturday morning August 4. United has a direct flight from Oakland. Please call her directly to do so (phone number at the bottom).

To those of you who donated money since the last newsletter, thanks very much. Your donations are making her travel possible. For those that haven't, please visit our website and donate if you can <http://www.flyersrights.com/4.html>. Credit cards and Paypal accepted.

### **Contents:**

- A Giant Leap for Airline Passengers
- But We Still Need Your Help - Minnesota!
- Please Come to DC During the Next Two Weeks
- We're Making Big News
- Contacting Congress
- "Flights for Rights"
- Donations
- Take 'em to Court
- New Articles
- Subscriber Information

### **A Giant Leap for Airline Passengers**

On July 20, 2007, the 28th anniversary of man's first steps on the lunar surface, Aviation Subcommittee Chairman Jerry Costello (D-IL) called Kate Hanni at home, apologized for how the committee's staff had frozen the coalition out prior to the vote on H.R. 2881, and vowed to provide greater access in the next couple of weeks. Mr. Costello asked Kate to provide the coalition's language demands ASAP to his office, in order that they may be promptly considered. This is no guarantee of success, but it's Giant Leap for Airline Passengers' rights.

Despite the fact that the House has made significant progress in passenger's rights language, they still haven't provided specific language for the most crucial issue - deplanement. Here's a summary of our demands:

- Carriers Must Create "Contingency Plans" for "extended" delays that include adequate food, water, medical treatment where necessary, operational restroom facilities, and an option to deplane after three hours.
- The DOT must staff the existing DOT Consumer Hotline with live people 24x7, and advertise the hotline number on all boarding passes.
- The DOT must collect accurate statistics for flights that are held on the tarmac. Currently, no accurate statistics are kept, and the new language still has major loopholes.

### **But We Still Need Your Help - Minnesota!**

To you Minnesotan's, especially from Jim Oberstar's district, we really need your help. Can you believe that your congressman is actually opposed to allowing people, including babies and children, held against their will in sweltering airplanes for hours and hours to get off an airplane? Certainly the airlines oppose this legislation. Perhaps his position is related to the fact that he received \$807,932 from airline PACs in the last election and \$millions over the last 10 years.

So everyone around the country, and especially his constituents in Minnesota, must call his office ((202) 225-6211) and urge him to support passenger deplanement legislation.

## **Please Come to DC During the Next Two Weeks**

For those of you who can, please plan to be in DC during the next two weeks. Kate and others will be in Washington visiting every Representative's office (or as many as we can) to urge them to support necessary amendments to the Bill of Rights language in H.R. 2881. But it is unlikely we will get appointments with individual Representatives without a constituent from their district. So every one of you has an important role to play in the upcoming votes. If you can come to DC, please contact Kate or Mark and let us know. Also, please arrange for an appointment with your Representative, their chief of staff, or legislative assistant in advance and tell them Kate Hanni will be accompanying you.

## **We're Making Big News!**

On Wednesday Kate was featured on Bill O'Reilly naming names about who in Congress is making promises to passengers and not keeping their word. Please see the following video on YouTube.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cjp2jkExoFQ>

## **Contacting Congress**

If you can't come to Washington, please keep calling, e-mailing and faxing your letters to your senators and representatives. You can locate your representative at <http://www.visi.com/juan/congress/>. If you've called them before, call them again. The phone and fax campaign has been very effective and it is important that they keep hearing about this issue, especially during the next two weeks.

## **"Flights for Rights"**

We always need frequent flyer miles. Please call Kate directly to donate these. The Coalition needs you now!

## **Donations**

We need more funds to run radio ads in key districts. Even ten dollars from each member would make a huge difference. To those of you who have donated, thank you! Please visit our website and donate if you can <http://www.flyersrights.com/4.html>. Credit cards and Paypal accepted. Send checks directly to:

*CAPBOR  
C/O Kate Hanni  
159 Silverado Springs Drive  
Napa, CA 94558*

FYI, no one gets paid from these donations. All monetary contributions pay for our bulk email service, website, advertising and other necessary expenses. All active coalition volunteers use their own money for travel, hotels and meals, and these expenses are not tax deductible.

## **Take 'em to Court**

Passenger wins damages from Spirit for canceled flight - USATODAY.com

[http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-07-16-spirit-suit\\_N.htm](http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-07-16-spirit-suit_N.htm)

The reality of this situation is that she may never get paid, and most of us don't have the resources necessary to take the airlines to court over a \$300 plane ticket. In addition, in most states you can't sue the airlines for anything except safety related issues. But if many affected people would follow this course, change could happen. We'll be working on a campaign in the following weeks to provide people with the information necessary to do what Jane Wuan did.

### **New Articles**

It is important to visit the articles and websites below and to post comments. The media keeps track of the number of visits and comments made in order to concentrate their coverage of subjects according to public interest. The more public interest shown, the more media attention we get. The more media attention we get, the more public awareness we get. And public awareness is what is critical to getting legislation passed. So visit and post often!

Avoiding air travel at all costs | Chron.com - Houston Chronicle  
<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/business/steffy/4967764.html>

Delayed Passengers Stage Breakout  
<http://mnweekly.ru/local/20070719/55262722.html>

As summer air travel horror begins, Congress should give passengers more rights - Vindu's View from the Valley - A Silicon Va.  
<http://www.merextra.com/blogs/vindu/2007/07/02/as-summer-air-travel-horror-begins-congress-should-give-passengers-more-rights/>

### **Subscriber Information**

You are receiving this email because you signed the petition at  
<http://www.petitiononline.com/airline/petition.html>. ;

If you have trouble unsubscribing to these emails or changing your email address, please email mark@flyersrights.com.

Best Regards,

*The Coalition for an Airline Passengers Bill of Rights*  
Kate Hanni  
Spokeswoman  
CAPBOR  
(707) 337-0328  
[www.flyersrights.com](http://www.flyersrights.com)  
<http://Strandedpassengers.blogspot.com>