

Jack Dwyer
Vice President of Human Resources and Administration

February 13, 2009

To: Members, Committee on Appropriations

Re: Tweed New Haven Airport Support

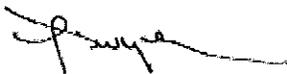
Dear Committee Members,

I write in support of the Tweed New Haven Airport Authority's request to the State for \$1.5 M in funding to support airport operations at Tweed.

SARGENT Manufacturing Company, New Haven's largest industrial employer (650 + manufacturing jobs) and its U.S. parent company, ASSA ABLOY, Inc., conduct business from the same general site on Sargent Drive in New Haven. The nature of our business requires that a significant number of our executives and employees travel via air regularly. A clear function of business travel efficiency is proximity to an airport, and having Tweed as a viable alternative to Bradley, Westchester, LaGuardia, JFK, Newark and Providence is viewed by our management team and owners as being a factor in our ongoing and future success.

We urge you to grant the requested funding to Tweed, despite the demands on the State's budget. This appropriation signals support of the needs of businesses, including ours, supplying jobs to the citizens of Southern Connecticut, as well as supporting the needs of the traveling public.

Sincerely,



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