



Transportation Committee Public Hearing
Thursday, March 14, 2019

Senator Leone, Representative Lemar, Senator Looney, Representative Devlin and members of the transportation committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of **H.B. 7143 AN ACT CONCERNING THE LENGTH OF RUNWAY 2-20 AT TWEED NEW HAVEN AIRPORT.**

On behalf of Cowork at District, LLC, I, JoHannah Hamilton, am asking that you support passage of this bill. This bill will eliminate the statutory limit on the length of Tweed's primary runway. It is our expectation that this change will open the door for new commercial service at Tweed with additional destinations and flights.

Cowork at District opened in New Haven on April 15, 2018 to provide shared workspace for individuals and companies. In less than a year, we are approaching 100% capacity for our private offices, with additional capacity for visiting members – those who travel for business. We know that by 2020, over 40% of the workforce will be independent workers (Intuit 2020 Report), who rely on flexibility in both where they work and how they work.

Tweed New Haven Airport is important for my business because part of what our business model assumes is that there will be a steady flow of visitor & drop-in membership who need a flexible workspace outside of their home or a traditional office environment. How will 40% of workers travel to New Haven and support businesses here, unless this bill is passed?

An extended runway at Tweed New Haven Airport supports our region's economic development. More flights and destinations increase accessibility to New Haven. With more ways to get in and out, our businesses gain access to markets, talent, innovation, and productivity increases.

I strongly urge the committee to support this bill and encourage economic growth in the greater New Haven region.

Sincerely,

JoHannah Hamilton
Chief Operating Officer
Cowork at District, LLC
District NHV, LLC