



Transportation Committee Public Hearing
Monday, February 25, 2019

Senator Leone, Representative Lemar, Senator Martin, 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 our company, C. A. White, Inc. we are 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.

Our family has invested in the New Haven community for three generations, and we have seen dramatic changes occur, and in fact including one of us, both our father and our uncle were pilots and Tweed was virtually a second home and office for our family. Access to air transport has become a critical component of the economic vitality of any region, including our own.

Tweed New Haven Airport is essential to our community to provide connections for local businesses, to attract businesses that need easy access to air transportation, and as an academic community, the ability to attract conferences, executive management courses, and national seminars. All of these activities add to the vitality of our region driving new development, increased retail trade, and ultimately jobs across the full spectrum of occupations.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael & Tony Schaffer", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Michael & Tony Schaffer
Principals
C.A. White, Inc.