

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

March 11, 2022

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg:

As you may be aware, on March 9, 2022, SkyWest Airlines gave notice that it intends to discontinue service to the Jamestown Regional Airport and the Devils Lake Regional Airport, effective in 90 days. This action would cease commercial air service to the two airports, which are currently served by 12 round-trip flights per week between Denver, CO, Jamestown, and Devils Lake. We write to urge the Department of Transportation (DOT) to issue an order prohibiting SkyWest from terminating air service prior to the end of its contract and to work to find future service for these communities.

Access to continued, reliable commercial air service for Jamestown, Devils Lake, and the surrounding communities is necessary to continue economic growth and opportunities in the region and to meet the needs of the traveling public. Air service demand in North Dakota has significantly increased from previous years. Notably, of the eight commercial service airports in North Dakota, Jamestown and Devils Lake airports are the only that have seen an increase in boardings year-over-year from January 2019. Clearly, now is not the time to cease commercial air service to these communities.

In order to ensure there is not a disruption in scheduled air service at these airports, we urge DOT to issue an order prohibiting SkyWest from terminating air service and requiring the airline to serve out the remainder of its contract through June 2023. Concurrently, we request that the Department expedite the initiation of a Request for Proposals (RFP) process for future service so that another suitable air carrier can provide service to these communities.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and look forward to continuing to work with you to support commercial air service throughout North Dakota.

Sincerely,



John Hoeven  
United States Senate



Kevin Cramer  
United States Senate



Kelly Armstrong  
U.S. House of Representatives