

# Alaska Air Group

March 12, 2013

The Honorable John S. Pistole  
Administrator  
Transportation Security Administration  
Department of Homeland Security  
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Administrator Pistole:


On behalf of Alaska Airlines and Horizon Air, we are writing to urge your reconsideration of the new Transportation Security Administration policy, scheduled to go into effect April 25, to allow certain knives back on aircraft.

We understand the value of a risk-based approach to aviation security and applaud your demonstrated commitment to improving safety and security for the traveling public. However, we do not believe rolling back the ban on knives in the cabin improves safety; to the contrary, we view it as posing a very real safety risk to our crews and customers in the cabin. While the costs to safety of the new policy are evident, we do not believe the safety benefits have been clearly demonstrated.

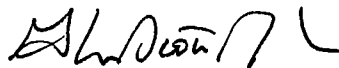
At both of our airlines, we place the safety of our employees and customers as the highest priority. As such, we felt it important to express our views on this matter. We respectfully urge TSA to reconsider moving forward as planned with this new policy. At a minimum, a robust discussion of its safety implications, with input from crewmembers, is needed before proceeding with the change.

Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,



Brad Tilden  
President and CEO  
Alaska Airlines, Inc.



Glenn Johnson  
President  
Horizon Air Industries, Inc.