



JOHNNY ISAKSON

UNITED STATES SENATOR • GEORGIA



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, November 4, 2011

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Isakson Pushes for TSA Investigation of Alleged Security Breach at Atlanta Airport *Atlanta TV News Station Exposed Potential Security Gap in Airport Catering Operation*

WASHINGTON – U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson, R-Ga., has sent a letter to the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) encouraging the agency to investigate an alleged security breach at Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport. Isakson's letter comes in response to a recent investigative report by an Atlanta TV station that exposed a potential security gap in the airport's catering operation.

Isakson serves on the U.S. Senate Commerce Committee's Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety and Security. Immediately upon viewing the investigative report, Isakson called TSA officials and urged them to look into the potential security gap to ensure that air travelers in our country are safe and airport operations are secure. Isakson's letter is a follow-up to his call.

The text of the letter is below.

November 2, 2011

The Honorable John Pistole
Administrator
Transportation Security Administration
East Tower, Floor 11, TSA-5
601 South Twelfth Street
Arlington, VA 20598-6001

Dear Administrator Pistole:

I am writing in regards to the recent investigative news story that aired on WSB-TV regarding the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) oversight at Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport. Specifically the story focused on the operations of Gate Gourmet, and concerns about

security both with catering and with employees “piggybacking” through checkpoints where they are required to swipe their identification cards.

My understanding from conversations that I and my staff have had with your staff is that an investigation into the allegations made in the story is ongoing, and I appreciate your staff’s commitment to keep me apprised of the outcome of that investigation. As a member of the Senate Commerce Committee, its Subcommittee on Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security, and a frequent traveler through Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport I have a special interest in your findings.

I appreciate your attention to this important matter. Should you or your staff have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Michael Quiello on my staff.

Sincerely,

Johnny Isakson
United States Senator

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