

MARCIA L. FUDGE
11TH DISTRICT OF OHIO

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE
RANKING MEMBER, SUBCOMMITTEE ON
DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS, OVERSIGHT, AND NUTRITION

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HORTICULTURE, RESEARCH,
BIOTECHNOLOGY AND FOREIGN AGRICULTURE

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AND THE WORKFORCE**
SUBCOMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD, ELEMENTARY,
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SUBCOMMITTEE ON WORKFORCE PROTECTION

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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June 6, 2014

Mr. Jeffrey A. Smisek
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer
United Continental Holdings, Inc.
233 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, IL 60606

Dear Mr. Smisek:

I write to express my strong opposition to United Airlines' recent decision to consider a reduction of service operations at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. This decision will harm working families in Cleveland, increase costs for travelers, and is contrary to testimony United Airlines provided Congress.

When United announced its merger with Continental Airlines in 2010, both companies made it clear during Congressional testimony that the merger would not affect the jobs or wages of the new entity's front line employees. During testimony before the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, your predecessor at United Airlines, Glenn Tilton, said the merger "will not have a negative effect on our level of front line employment; in fact, it should give us the opportunity to grow front line employment through the growth of the two companies." However, this statement contradicts what is projected to take place at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport.

United Airlines' recent announcement to consider reducing its regional jet operations at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport could result in approximately 340 dedicated United Airlines employees losing their jobs, having their wages reduced, and/or being forced to relocate. Since announcing its intended merger, United has posted record profits, the U.S. economy has grown every quarter, jet fuel prices have remained stable, the Dow Jones Industrial Average has increased more than 30 percent, more passengers are flying in and out of Cleveland's Hopkins Airport, and more freight is being shipped. It is therefore difficult to justify placing these jobs in jeopardy, particularly in lieu of comments that any necessary reductions would come from retirements, attrition or voluntary programs.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge United Airlines to reconsider its efforts to relocate any front line employee's jobs at Cleveland Hopkins International Airport. If United Airlines intends on relocating personnel, United Airlines should take whatever steps necessary to assure a smooth transition for the workers that opted for a transfer, exhaust every measure to provide

opportunities at Cleveland International for the workers who opt to go part-time, and provide a sufficient severance package for the workers that will be displaced.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marcia L. Fudge". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "M".

Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress