

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

February 22, 2021

The Honorable Stephen Dickson  
Administrator  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Office of the Administrator  
800 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Administrator Dickson:

We write to urge you to swiftly implement the provision included in the Fiscal Year 2021 Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill Report (FY21 House Report) regarding the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) sound insulation program.

Residences across our districts received sound insulation and other mitigation in the earliest phases of the FAA's noise mitigation program in the 1980s and 1990s. At the time, materials used for sound insulation were of lower quality than what is used today. Additionally, the installation in the early phases of the program was sometimes done without proper ventilation or attention to other structural concerns, leading to cases of mold or structural damage in certain homes.

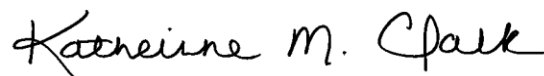
As you know, Airport Improvement Program (AIP) regulations bar airports from applying for federal funds for the same project more than one time, meaning that residences with failing sound insulation historically have not been entitled to repairs or replacements using AIP funds. The FY21 House Report importantly clarifies that AIP funds to repair or replace noise mitigation in homes with noise mitigation packages installed prior to 1993 is allowed. To ensure the airports can take advantage of this exemption, it is vital that the FAA quickly establish a process for airports to be reimbursed for repairing or replacing noise mitigation in homes that were installed prior to 1993.

We respectfully request the agency respond with the plan to implement the language from the FY21 House Report. We look forward to the agency's response.

Sincerely,



Adam Smith  
Member of Congress (WA-09)



Katherine Clark  
Member of Congress (MA-05)