

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 5, 2016

Mr. Barry Cooper
Great Lakes Regional Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
2300 East Devon Avenue
Des Plaines, IL 60018

Dear Mr. Cooper:

We write to call your attention to concerns raised by local officials from our districts and surrounding communities that some planes descending into O'Hare International Airport are flying at abnormally low altitudes, impacting the quality of life of residents living near the airport. Recent news reports suggest that many Chicago-area residents may be experiencing harmful noise impacts from jets flying below the standard glide path approach into O'Hare. While these flights may represent only a fraction of the total flights to O'Hare, we are concerned that low-flying planes may be increasing in frequency and placing a serious burden on our constituents.

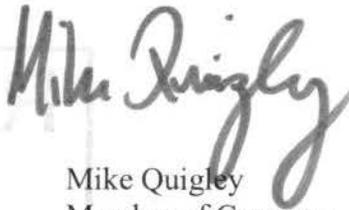
To address this matter, we request that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) provide information on how it monitors the altitudes of planes descending into O'Hare. In addition, please describe in detail how FAA enforces airline compliance with FAA-required altitude ranges, including what actions FAA takes to hold carriers accountable for violations of these standards, particularly infractions that occur within 5-12 miles of the airport. Finally, please provide us with data detailing all FAA enforcement actions over the past 5 years related to airlines violating altitude requirements when approaching O'Hare.

Noise from O'Hare Airport has plagued our constituents for years, causing a great deal of stress and anxiety. We are committed to working with the FAA to find sensible, long-term solutions to mitigate jet noise and improve the overall strength and safety of our aviation system.

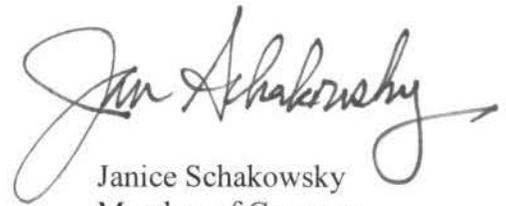
Sincerely,



Tammy Duckworth
Member of Congress



Mike Quigley
Member of Congress



Janice Schakowsky
Member of Congress