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April 29, 2020

Mr. Robin Hayes Chief Executive Officer JetBlue Airways 27-01 Queens Plaza North Long Island City, NY 11101

Dear Mr. Hayes,

I would like to both thank and congratulate you for making the tough, but critically necessary, decision to require that all passengers wear a face covering on JetBlue flights beginning on May 4, 2020.

As a frequent flyer myself, I had a recent experience flying from Washington DC to Charlotte, North Carolina, where I was in an unsafe and uncomfortable situation onboard an airplane due to a lack of face coverings by flight attendants – both working and traveling – and passengers. Because of this, each person's health and safety was unnecessarily put at risk.

On April 27, 2020, I wrote to Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar, Department of Transportation Secretary Elaine Chao, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Director Robert Redfield and Federal Aviation Administration Administrator Stephen Dickson urging them to require the use of face masks to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus in air travel.

While the aforementioned agencies decide whether or not to take action, it is comforting to know airlines such as JetBlue are taking responsibility to properly and safely operate amid a global pandemic.

It is imperative the flying public feel safe and comfortable as air travel continues to increase while the country slowly starts to reopen, and your decision will undoubtedly help to protect the health of your passengers and crew members. I sincerely hope that other airlines will follow your lead.

Thank you for your leadership and your commitment to the safety, health and prosperity of all your passengers.

As always, I remain,

Sincerely,

Stere Cohen

Steve Cohen Member of Congress