

**Remarks of Lin Axamethy Floyd, President,
Nether Providence Township Board of Commissioners
Ridley High School, 901 Morton Ave., Folsom, PA.
Date: 23 July 2007**

Chairman Markosek and other members of the Committee on Transportation, thank you for this opportunity to appear before you today.

I am here to speak in favor of House Bill 1182, establishing the Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Airport Authority. I urge the committee members to promptly vote to move this forward-looking legislation on to the full General Assembly.

Nether Providence Township lies in the heart of Delaware County. Just this month our community received national ranking on MONEY Magazine's annual list as one of the most desirable small towns in the country in which to live. We take pride in that recognition. MONEY Magazine tells us that our ranking would have been even higher than 9th except for the relative economic weakness of the area that surrounds Nether Providence.

Now you may assume that when I speak of "the area that surrounds Nether Providence", that I am considering only Delaware County. My viewpoint is much wider. I see that the proposed Regional Airport Authority would create a win-win opportunity for the much wider economic region. The proposal would unite the mutual interests of Delaware, Lehigh, Northampton, and Philadelphia Counties. It would lay the basis for cooperation with the Greater Wilmington and Atlantic City locales with those of SE Pennsylvania. It would establish a way for those interests to think broadly about sound planning for the economic interests of the larger area to the benefit of all.

Do I hope that a regional authority would ultimately control airport noise over Nether Providence? O course! I understand that increases of noise ranging up to 1000% from current levels are projected for parts of Delaware County under the current airspace redesign proposal that myopically considers only the Philadelphia airport.

More importantly though, I urge you to support House Bill 1182 to demonstrate the power of regional planning. I am convinced that those communities who are forwarding-thinking enough to press for this plan will reap the benefits of that effort.