

Reston, VA, February 17, 2011 - The [Business Coalition for Fair Competition \(BCFC\)](#) today applauded the U.S. Senate for unanimously adopting an [amendment](#) by Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO) to the FAA Reauthorization Bill to ensure that airports can choose the private sector to meet its passenger screening needs.

Senator Blunt's amendment prohibits TSA from rejecting any airports from opting-out from the government employee screening program without providing a case-specific explanation that describes the reasoning for the denial.

In [announcing](#) the passage of his amendment, Sen. Blunt stated, "The bipartisan passage of this amendment is an important step in the right direction, and I will continue to work during the conference process to ensure that Springfield and other airports across the country have the flexibility to determine the best course of action for their individual security needs."

Last week, BCFC [wrote](#) Sen. Blunt in support of his amendment and urged Senate approval.

BCFC President John Palatiello commended the Senate for its bipartisan action. "The Office of Management and Budget has listed security guard and protective services as commercial activities-- functions found on Main Street USA, or in the 'Yellow Pages'. Sen. Blunt's amendment would provide an opportunity for the private sector to perform a commercial activity, and decrease government duplication of and competition with the private sector."