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Honorable Ray LaHood
Secretary of the Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

RE: United-Continental Merger

Dear Secretary LaHood:

The North Houston Association advocates projects and initiatives which advance the business environment and improve the quality of life in north Harris and Montgomery Counties. Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) plays a strategic role in our region, and United Air Lines and Continental Airlines have indicated that if the merger is approved IAH will become the largest hub of the largest airline in the world.

We support the merger to ensure the future viability of both airlines, and we urge the carriers to retain as many current headquarters and other positions as possible in Houston, and, to this end, we ask that the airlines consult with Houston Mayor Parker's Merger Advisory Group, with the goal of preserving Houston-area jobs. The new United should also continue to be a leader in supporting civic, business, and community organizations and initiatives in our region.

Our association welcomes the opportunity to assist in protecting the interests of our region and trusts that the successful new United Air Lines will maintain a significant presence at both IAH and in Houston.

Sincerely,

Mark Froehlich
Chairman

Jon Lindsay
President

Cc:
Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
Senator John Cornyn
Attorney General Eric Holder