



For Immediate Release  
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## **Liberal Transport Critic Supports Call by Federal and Provincial Privacy Commissioners to Suspend the No-Fly List**

OTTAWA – The Conservative government must acknowledge the serious warnings given by the provincial and territorial privacy commissioners today, and suspend the No-Fly list until a sensible satisfactory overhaul of this list can be put into place, Liberal Transport Critic Joe Volpe said today.

Today, the federal, provincial and territorial privacy commissioners issued a joint resolution outlining urgent reforms and comprehensive changes that should be made to the list in order to protect Canadians.

“I support this condemnation of the Conservative No-Fly list and call on the federal government to stop the program until a comprehensive public Parliamentary review is completed,” said Mr. Volpe. “This program is shrouded in secrecy, violates the privacy of Canadian citizens, and has not been proven to protect the security of Canadians.”

Since the announcement of the Passenger Protect Program on May 18, 2007, Joe Volpe and the Liberal Party have been strong critics of the list, which could have profound implications on the privacy rights and civil liberties of the traveling public.

The privacy commissioners have reinforced Liberal concerns about the Conservative No-Fly list. Some of the concerns highlighted by the privacy commissioners include:

- The Passenger Protect Program involves the secretive use of personal information in a way that will profoundly impact privacy and other related human rights;
- Canadians will not have legally enforceable rights of appeal, to independent adjudication or to compensation for out of pocket expenses or other damages;
- Transport Canada has provided no assurances that the names of individuals identified on its no-fly list will not be shared with foreign governments and fall under their jurisdiction;

- There is no clear process for passengers to be advised that they are on the list; and
- There is no clear process for Canadians to get their names removed in a fair, transparent, and accessible manner if they are on the list erroneously.

“All Canadians support increased security measures to protect the public. However this program has not provided evidence that security benefits outweigh associated privacy risks and infringement of civil liberties. The case of Maher Arar demonstrates the danger of mistakes made from secretive uses of information,” Mr. Volpe concluded.

-30-

For more information on the announcement by the Privacy Commissioners, visit the website <http://www.privcom.gc.ca>.

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