

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 237

To amend title 49, United States Code, to exempt airports in economically depressed communities from matching grant obligations under the airport improvement program.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California (for himself and Mr. DEFAZIO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to exempt airports in economically depressed communities from matching grant obligations under the airport improvement program.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. INCREASED UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT**  
4                               **SHARE OF AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PRO-**  
5                               **GRAM PROJECT COSTS.**

6       Section 47109 of title 49, United States Code, is  
7 amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a) by striking “subsection  
2 (b)” and inserting “subsections (b) and (e)”; and

3 (2) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(e) SPECIAL RULE FOR ECONOMICALLY DE-  
5 PRESSED COMMUNITIES.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The United States Govern-  
7 ment’s share of allowable project costs is 100 per-  
8 cent for a project at an airport that is receiving sub-  
9 sidized air service under subchapter II of chapter  
10 417 and that is located in a community that, at the  
11 time a project grant application is submitted under  
12 section 47105, is an economically depressed commu-  
13 nity.

14 “(2) ECONOMICALLY DEPRESSED COMMUNITY  
15 DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘economically  
16 depressed community’ means a unit of local govern-  
17 ment that the Secretary of Transportation deter-  
18 mines has—

19 “(A) an unemployment rate that is, for the  
20 most recent 24-month period for which data are  
21 available, at least 1 percent greater than the  
22 national average unemployment rate;

23 “(B) per capita income that is, for the  
24 most recent period for which data are available,

1           80 percent or less of the national average per  
2           capita income; or

3           “(C) a special need arising from actual or  
4           threatened severe unemployment or economic  
5           adjustment problems resulting from severe  
6           short-term or long-term changes in economic  
7           conditions, such as—

8                   “(i) substantial outmigration or popu-  
9                   lation loss;

10                   “(ii) underemployment;

11                   “(iii) military base closures or realign-  
12                   ments, defense contractor reductions-in-  
13                   force, or Department of Energy defense-re-  
14                   lated funding reductions;

15                   “(iv) natural or other major disasters  
16                   or emergencies;

17                   “(v) extraordinary depletion of nat-  
18                   ural resources;

19                   “(vi) closure or restructuring of in-  
20                   dustrial firms essential to area economies;  
21                   and

22                   “(vii) destructive impacts of foreign  
23                   trade.”.

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