



# SPENCER BACHUS

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[www.house.gov/bachus](http://www.house.gov/bachus)

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## BACHUS CALLS FOR CHANGES IN AIRLINE PASSENGER SCREENING PROCESS

### 9/11 Commission Focus of Special Hearing Today

WASHINGTON- Congressman Bachus returned to Washington today from Birmingham to participate in the Transportation Committee's hearing on aviation security recommendations proposed by the 9/11 Commission.

Congressman Bachus immediately called for changes in the airline passenger screening process.

"I have seen a soldier in uniform who had to remove his boots," said Bachus. "Why are individuals in wheelchairs, obviously disabled or ill, forced to abandon their wheelchairs and struggle unassisted through metal detectors and be subjected to lengthy searches? Isn't there an alternative? Aren't we smarter than that?" asked Bachus.

Among the witnesses Congressman Bachus questioned was David M. Stone, the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). The TSA was created after September 11<sup>th</sup> to oversee all baggage and passenger screening in our nation's airports. Unfortunately, many aspects of the TSA's screening process have become burdensome and unnecessary to the average American who flies on a regular basis.

"We have a trusted shipper program for our nation's cargo carriers, why can't we have a trusted passenger program for our nation's airline passengers?" asked Bachus.

The Congressman continued, "Right now we are subjecting the public to something that doesn't work, and I would like to see a new screening program put in place within the next 60 to 90 days."

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