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February 3, 2011

The Honorable Frank Lautenberg United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Lautenberg:

The American Lung Association is pleased to support your Senate Amendment Number 11 to S. 223, the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act. This amendment would close the loophole which allows smoking on some private charter flights where there is a flight attendant present. This exemption means that flight attendants are still being exposed to secondhand smoke. It is time to end this dangerous exemption and make sure no one is forced to breathe in deadly secondhand smoke while at work.

The U.S. Surgeon General has made it quite clear: there is *no* safe level of exposure to secondhand smoke. Even short term exposure can increase the risk of an asthma attack, heart attack or stroke.

The American Lung Association urges the Senate to adopt your amendment and work to make sure it becomes law.

Sincerely,

Charles D. Connor President and CEO