

**MONDAY MORNING GROUP OF WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY
ANNUAL ADVOCACY TRIP – WASHINGTON, DC
APRIL 20-23, 2026**

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

ISSUE: Airports are essential national infrastructure, supporting commerce, travel, and security while depending on DHS agencies for safe and efficient operations. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) agencies, including the Transportation Security Administration and U.S. Customs and Border Protection, play a leading role in ensuring aviation security; however, ongoing funding uncertainty creates operational challenges and security vulnerabilities for airports.

ACTION: The Monday Morning Group urges Congress and federal officials to ensure stable, full-year appropriations for DHS agencies that support airport operations, including the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

Specifically, Congress should:

- **Provide Full-Year DHS Appropriations:** Ensure predictable funding so TSA and CBP can plan staffing levels, modernize technology, and support airport operations without disruption.
- **Increase TSA Staffing and Resources:** Add personnel and support to maintain adequate checkpoint staffing and reduce passenger wait times.
- **Accelerate Deployment of Modern Screening Technology:** Fund next-generation screening systems that enhance security and speed up checkpoint throughput.
- **Strengthen CBP Capacity at International Airports:** Increase officer staffing to process international passengers and cargo efficiently while maintaining strong border security.

BACKGROUND: Airports are essential components of the nation’s transportation and economic infrastructure. They connect communities to domestic and international markets while supporting tourism, business travel, and global supply chains. Airports rely on federal security personnel and systems to screen passengers and baggage, facilitate international arrivals, and protect aviation infrastructure from evolving threats. The success of the U.S. aviation system depends on strong coordination between airports and their federal partners at DHS.

Airports nationwide face persistent staffing shortages among federal security personnel, creating delays and limiting the system’s ability to meet growing travel demand. Ensuring sufficient staffing levels and funding stability is critical to maintaining security at our nation’s airports. With air travel demand rising, federal security staffing and technology must scale alongside airport infrastructure to ensure new and expanded facilities operate safely and efficiently.

Stable, full-year DHS appropriations will ensure airports and federal partners have the staffing, technology, and resources needed to meet rising passenger volumes and protect the nation’s aviation system. More importantly, it will ensure that passengers traveling through the nation’s airports are safe and secure.