

U.S. House of Representatives approves request from Augusta Congressman John Barrow

Washington, DC - The United States House of Representatives today approved a request from Augusta Congressman John Barrow (12th District) for \$2,500,000 to help pay for the construction of Augusta's new airport passenger terminal.

The money was included in the Conference Report on the Transportation, Treasury, HUD, Judiciary, and District of Columbia Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2006, which passed the House by an overwhelming vote of 392-31.

"Securing additional funding for this airport project has been one of my top priorities in Congress," Barrow said. "This is not a 'bridge to nowhere' - this is a terminal for Augusta's future. As the area grows, the airport will now be able to grow with it. And when the terminal is complete, it'll be a huge boost for the area's economy."

The new terminal, scheduled for completion in 2007, will be built on the site of the airport's current passenger terminal. In March, Barrow joined with local Augusta leaders to take part in the official groundbreaking of the new airport terminal. Later, in August, Barrow got an update on the terminal while touring the construction site with Ernest Smith of the Airport Commission, Chairman of Airport Commission Cedric Johnson, and Augusta Regional Airport Director Buster Boshears.

The Senate is expected to approve the Conference Report later this year. After passing both chambers, it will then head to the President's desk, where it is anticipated that he will sign it.

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