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LARSON VOTES AGAINST MEASURE THAT REOPENS AVIATION SECURITY GAP

Congressman Votes to Include Provision to Close Loophole

WASHINGTON, D.C.- U.S. Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01) today voted against legislation that reopened an aviation security loophole by dropping a requirement that all cargo loaded aboard passenger planes be physically screened by October 31, 2004. The House previously voted to add the cargo screening amendment to the Homeland Security Appropriations bill, H.R. 2555, by a vote of 278-146. The House also previously passed, by a vote of 347-47, a motion to instruct House conferees to include the provision in the final version of the Homeland Security Appropriations bill. Under pressure from the White House and GOP leadership, the conference committee dropped the provision during negotiations to reconcile the House and Senate versions.