

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 17, 2019
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Congressman Garret Graves Named Ranking Member for Subcommittee on Aviation

Washington, D.C. – On January 17, 2018, Congressman Garret Graves (South Louisiana) was named Ranking Member for the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Aviation for the 116th Congress.

“The world population is approaching eight billion people and global trade is soaring,” said Rep. Garret Graves. **“We need modern infrastructure and an air transportation system that reflects this growth and change. We are not there yet. I am excited about the opportunity to be on the front lines helping to modernize our technology and aviation system from the one we have to the one we deserve.”**

Graves served as Chairman of the Water Resources and Environment Subcommittee in the 115th Congress and was instrumental in the development and passage of the America’s Water Infrastructure Act. He also worked closely with other Committee leaders on the Disaster Recovery Reform Act to improve Federal Emergency Management Agency programs and strengthen U.S. communities’ ability to become more resilient to disaster.

Graves continued: **“When you step back and consider what Louisiana has – the Mississippi River system, the lion’s share of top ports in the U.S., six Class 1 railroads, our massive network of pipelines, our airports, roads and interstates – we are an infrastructure gold mine. As population grows and the globe continues to shrink, so to speak, all of these intersecting modes of transportation are important. Taking on this new role is an opportunity to build on our record of accomplishment, expand our influence and help position Louisiana for the future.**

Chairing the Water Subcommittee last Congress allowed us to advance Louisiana’s and national priorities on rivers, levees, reforming the Corps of Engineers and coastal issues – and we are not backing off of those at all. We advocated on behalf Congressman Westerman (R-AR) taking over as

Ranking Member of Water Resources and look forward to continuing to serve with him on that subcommittee as one of the principal Members involved in making policy and progress there.

We are excited to get to work in this new role on the Aviation Subcommittee. As trade continues to surge, you're also seeing impatience surge – which means the role of aviation in trade will continue to expand in influence and importance. This assignment gives us the ability to dig in on the policy issues to help improve the customer experience, to pursue additional growth and modernizing for our airports and aviation system in Louisiana, and to ensure our economy is ready."

"Garret is an experienced, hard-working Member of Congress who knows the Committee's issues and knows how to get things done," House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Ranking Member Sam Graves (R-MO) added. "He is the type of leader the Committee will need as we work together in the coming weeks and months on an infrastructure package and other priorities that address the needs of America's infrastructure and make our transportation network stronger, safer, and more efficient."