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December 7, 2011

The Honorable John S. Pistole  
Administrator  
U.S. Transportation Security Administration  
601 South 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
Arlington, Virginia 20598

Dear Administrator Pistole:

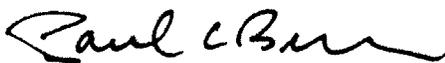
Today I read the statement you made to Bloomberg News saying that you would be “glad to sit down and go through the books” with those who feel as though TSA is a bloated bureaucracy which has ultimately been inefficient. I am writing to gladly accept your offer to sit down and go through the Transportation Security Administration’s records.

As you know, TSA has more than 65,000 employees and has spent nearly \$57 billion since its creation in 2001 following the 9/11 terrorist attacks. While your agency was originally intended to disseminate intelligence information and establish security standards, over the last ten years, it has morphed into a full-time, massive bureaucracy that is larger than the U.S. Departments of Labor, Energy, Education, Housing and Urban Development, and State combined.

Specifically you mentioned in the same news article, TSA’s administrative staff of 4,000 in the Washington headquarters alone “could be thinned.” You also stated that you have frozen hiring for some administrative positions, want some employees to leave through early retirement and have combined some positions to reduce overall numbers. These sound like positive cost-saving steps; however, the staff at TSA has increased by 400% in the past decade. I do not believe that the measures you have taken could possibly compensate for the massive growth of TSA over the past decade.

I absolutely agree that your top priority at TSA is ensuring the highest level of safety possible for all airline passengers, but I believe you can still accomplish that while making certain the agency is a good steward of taxpayer dollars. It is my sincere hope that I will receive a response from you; I look forward to sitting down to share my suggestions.

Sincerely,



Paul C. Broun, M.D.  
Member of Congress

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