

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 24, 2007

CONTACT:

Carole Alfano (603) 766-9193

Erin Rath (202) 224-3324

Senator Gregg Congratulates Skybus and Portsmouth Int'l Airport

Says New Airline Recognizes Value of NH and NE Passengers

(Portsmouth) U.S. Senator Judd Gregg (R-NH) joined local and state officials in welcoming Skybus to the Portsmouth International Airport at Pease (PSM) yesterday. The new, low-cost airline began its two-flights-a-day schedule on Wednesday, May 23.

Gregg was unable to attend the official welcome ceremony on the airport tarmac due to Senate floor votes in Washington, but in a letter to Pease Development Authority Executive Director Dick Green, he said, "The Granite State is fortunate that Skybus Airlines recognizes not only the value of New Hampshire and New England passengers looking for quality flying service for vacationers, but also the growing need of our business community – both large and small – to have fast and convenient access to new markets across the country."

When the Pease Air Force Base closed in 1991, Sen. Gregg was an early supporter of developing the Pease International Tradeport where PSM is located. His Portsmouth office sits at the front entrance of the Tradeport near where the old gate to the airbase once stood. Sixteen years after the base closed, Pease is recognized by the Department of Defense as the most successful military to civilian conversion in the country.

The Pease International Tradeport is now a world-class office park that is home to 220 companies employing over 6,800 people. "It's the perfect location for a new airline ready to take-off and make its mark in the aviation world," Gregg said.

-30-