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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**North Dakota Airline Passenger Boardings up 10% in first half of 2019**

During the first half of calendar year 2019, North Dakota's commercial service airports provided a total of 580,343 passenger boardings. This is a growth of 53,240 passengers or a 10% increase from this same time period in 2018.

The increased number of passengers throughout the state has allowed communities to attract, retain, and grow additional air service opportunities. 9 non-stop destinations (of which two are seasonal) are currently available to connect North Dakota to the rest of the world.

"The overall statewide year to date growth of 10% in passenger numbers is significant and it points to a growing economy and business climate throughout the state. This increased utilization of aviation transportation within North Dakota shows that our airports continue to play an important role in providing efficient transportation options for our residents and visitors," stated Kyle Wanner, Executive Director of the North Dakota Aeronautics Commission.