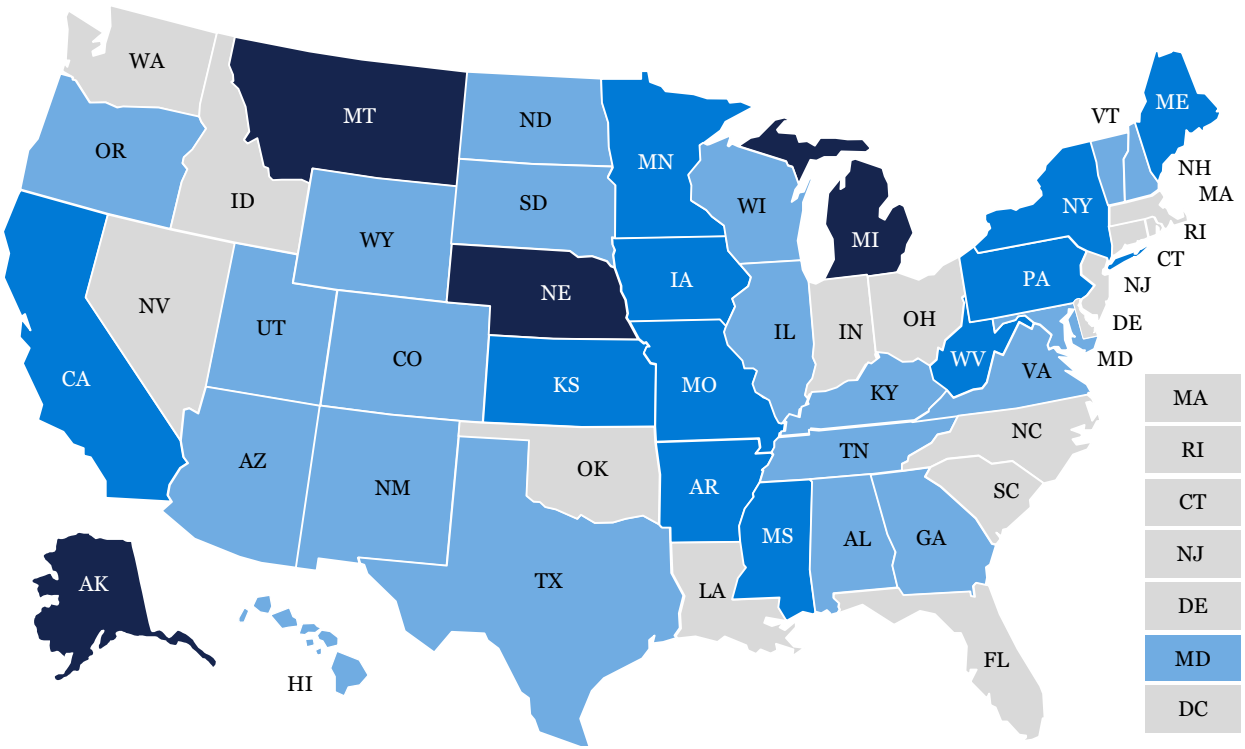
Trump proposes terminating the Essential Air Service program in his FY18 budget request

Number of airports in the Essential Air Service program, by state

0 airports | 1-3 airports | 4-6 airports | 7+ airports



Analysis

- The Essential Air Service program (EAS) subsidizes commercial flights for rural airports to guarantee small communities access to commercial air service
- EAS started as a temporary program in 1978 and was passed alongside the Airline Deregulation Act
- Over 40 airports in Alaska receive service as a result of EAS subsidies
- According to the White House budget proposal, eliminating the program would save $175 million per year

Sources: Department of Transportation, 2017; Office of Management and Budget, "America First, A Blueprint to Make America Great Again," March, 16, 2017.