

RESOLUTION 25-28 - RECOGNIZES THE SERVICE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF THOMAS R. CARPER TO THE STATE OF DELAWARE, THE DELAWARE RIVER AND BAY AUTHORITY AND DESIGNATES THE WILMINGTON AIRPORT PASSENGER TERMINAL AS THE THOMAS R. CARPER PASSENGER TERMINAL FACILITY AT THE WILMINGTON AIRPORT IN HIS HONOR:

WHEREAS, the Honorable Thomas R. Carper retired as a United States Senator on January 3, 2025, capping nearly fifty (50) years of public service in various statewide elected offices that began with State Treasurer in January 1977; and

WHEREAS, Captain Carper served in the United States Navy as a tactical coordinator and mission commander, flying the P-3 Orion during the Vietnam War and remained in the Naval reserves for another 18 years following the conclusion of his active military service in 1973; and

WHEREAS, during his service in the United States House of Representatives, Congressman Carper advocated for the 1990 Compact Amendments; enabling the Authority to engage in economic development projects in the four southern counties of New Jersey and the State of Delaware; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as Governor of the State of Delaware, the Delaware River and Bay Authority entered into an agreement with New Castle County to be the operator and sponsor of Wilmington Airport on June 30, 1995; and

WHEREAS, Senator Carper has always been steadfast champion for investments in both infrastructure and environmental stewardship – helping to secure millions in federal grant dollars for a new ship collision protection system at the Delaware Memorial bridge and for the repowering of two Cape May – Lewes Ferry vessels; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware delegation, led by Senator Carper, fought for and won a \$20 million grant award from the U.S. Department of Transportation to help fund the design and construction of a new diesel-hybrid replacement ferry that serves passengers who travel between Lewes, Delaware and Cape May, New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, the Delaware River and Bay Authority (DRBA) wanted to expand and modernize the Wilmington Airport Passenger Terminal Building to better serve customers; and

WHEREAS, Senator Carper was instrumental to these plans coming to fruition by helping to acquire a \$5.6 million grant award through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law's Airport Terminal Program to help fund these improvements; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Delaware River and Bay Authority does hereby recognize the outstanding contributions of the Honorable Thomas R. Carper to both the State of Delaware and the vital infrastructure that the Delaware River and Bay Authority manages and operates.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Delaware River and Bay Authority Commission does hereby designate the Wilmington Airport Passenger Terminal Building as the “Thomas R. Carper Passenger Terminal Facility at the Wilmington Airport” with the adoption of this resolution today, May 20, 2025.