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TAKE 'THE VENICE WALK'  
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# Santa Monica Daily Press

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THE ASSOCIATED STRESS ISSUE

## Looking to put airport to the test

BY KEVIN HERRERA  
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL Washing its hands of the pollution being generated by jets at Santa Monica Airport, the City Council on Tuesday endorsed a state bill that calls for a complete study of the health hazards being posed to nearby residents.

The move followed assurances from city staff that the bill's sponsor, Assemblyman Ted Lieu (D-El Segundo), would work to incorporate several amendments, including one which would shield City Hall from future litigation — but not the Federal Aviation Administration, which has asserted control over the airport, dictating what types of aircraft can operate there.

Residents in Santa Monica and Los Angeles hailed the move as a step in the right direction, finally providing them

with the evidence they need to prove that the increase in jet aircraft operations at the airport are negatively impacting their health. Residents have complained of being smothered by jet fumes that smell like Kerosene.

"It makes no sense for the state legislature to expand protections for the FAA," said Zina Josephs, who lives near the airport and is president of the neighborhood group Friends of Sunset Park. "It's difficult to sue the FAA anyway. Why make it harder?"

"It's one thing to protect the city, but it's another to protect the FAA."

The bill, AB 700, was approved by the state Assembly on June 5 and is now in the hands of state senators in the committee on environmental quality. Amendments approved by



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SEE AIRPORT PAGE 6

TAKING TO THE AIR: A propeller plane readies for takeoff.



### ABOUT TO SHIP OUT

Students last week pass by the traditional blue-and-gold ship erected from plywood for Santa Monica High School's graduation ceremonies. The vessel will stage tonight's annual 'Grad Night' celebration, which runs from 9:30 p.m. to 5 a.m., an all-night, alcohol-free party geared toward keeping students safe on what is statistically the most dangerous night of their lives.

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