

November 12, 2014

The Honorable Harry Reid
Senator Majority Leader
S-221 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-7020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
S-230 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-7010

Dear Leaders Reid and McConnell,

Together our associations proudly represent the strength of the aviation, aerospace, and travel industry, which combined contribute billions of dollars to the U.S. economy every year and maintain thousands of high-tech jobs in the United States. We write to express our strong support for S. 1893, the Transportation Security Acquisition Reform Act introduced by Senator Kelly Ayotte (R-NH) and S. 1804, the Aviation Security Stakeholder Participation Act introduced by Senator Jon Tester (D-MT). Companion versions (H.R. 2719 and H.R. 1204) of these two bills passed the House of Representatives with overwhelming bipartisan support on December 3, 2013, and were reported unanimously from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on July 24, 2014.

Both bills were developed with significant input from our industries and represent important progress toward streamlining the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) acquisition process and improving decision-making, by including industry stakeholders on issues affecting aviation security. These no-cost, common-sense bills will benefit the transportation industry by requiring TSA to conduct meaningful private sector engagement and coordination, strategic planning, and transparent technology procurements, which will save taxpayer dollars and strengthen security in the long term.

As associations concerned with improving aviation safety and security, we ask that you bring S.1804/H.R. 1204 and S. 1893/H.R. 2719 to the Senate floor for the Senate's prompt consideration and passage in order to send these critical bills to the President for his signature.

Sincerely,

American Association of Airport Executives
Airlines for America
Aeronautical Repair Station Association
General Aviation Manufacturers Association
International Air Transport Association
National Association of State Aviation Officials
NetJets Association of Shared Aircraft Pilots
Security Manufacturers Coalition
U.S. Travel Association

Airports Council International-North America
Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
Cargo Airline Association
Helicopter Association International
National Air Transportation Association
National Business Aviation Association
Security Industry Association
Southwest Airlines Pilots Association