



March 5, 2008



To Members of the United States Senate:



As representatives of the aviation community, we are writing to stress the importance of passing a comprehensive, long-term reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Further, we wish to express our collective hope that passing a bill in a timely fashion will be a priority for the U.S. Senate in this second session of the 110<sup>th</sup> Congress.



As you know, the American economy is increasingly dependent upon the rapid transportation of products and people that aviation allows. With the current concerns about the economy taking such a high-profile position on Capitol Hill, we feel it is important to highlight to policy makers the vital role that aviation plays in our economy:



- Representing 5.4 percent of Gross Domestic Product;
- Contributing over \$600 billion to the annual economy; and
- Providing 9 million jobs.



While our individual goals are diverse and in many cases divergent, we are unified in recognizing the importance of advancing multi-year FAA reauthorization legislation and the development of the Next Generation Air Transportation System. The strength of our aviation system and the ability to meet future demands is dependent upon the federal government's success in meeting its obligations to provide adequate infrastructure. A critical step in meeting those obligations is for the Senate to advance a comprehensive, long-term bill that will help provide the resources necessary to help our country meet the current and growing demands being placed on the aviation system.



On this issue, we hope that the Senate will recognize the importance of advancing multi-year FAA reauthorization legislation and make it a priority in 2008, especially considering how important the aviation industry is to our economy. We look forward to working with the Senate to complete the FAA reauthorization process and ensure that our nation's aviation system is able to grow in a manner that is safe, secure and efficient for all users.



Sincerely,



- Aerospace Industries Association*
- Aeronautical Repair Station Association*
- Aerospace States Association*
- Air Carrier Association of America*
- Air Line Pilots Association*
- Airports Consultants Council*
- Airports Council International-North America*
- American Association of Airport Executives*
- American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials*
- American Helicopter Society*
- American Public Works Association*
- Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, AFL-CIO*
- Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations*
- Association of Equipment Manufacturers*
- Cargo Airline Association*
- Florida Airports Council*

- General Aviation Manufacturers Association*
- International Air Transport Association*
- International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers – AFL-CIO*
- National Air Carrier Association*
- National Aircraft Resale Association*
- National Air Traffic Controllers Association*
- National Air Transportation Association*
- National Association of Counties*
- National Association of Regional Councils*
- National Association of State Aviation Officials*
- National Business Aviation Association*
- National Conference of State Legislatures*
- National League of Cities*
- National Stone, Sand and Gravel Association*
- Portland Cement Association*
- Professional Aviation Maintenance Association*
- Professional Airways Systems Specialists*
- Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO*
- U.S. Chamber of Commerce*

