

September 25, 2009

To Members of the United States Senate:

As aviation community stakeholders, we are writing to stress the importance of passing a comprehensive, multi-year reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The recent passage of the seventh extension in the last two years highlights how critically overdue this important legislation has become.

As you know, the American economy is increasingly dependent upon the reliable air transport of products and people. Today, aviation helps to sustain over 10 million jobs and contributes over \$1 trillion in economic activity in the United States. Because of the current economic challenges facing our nation, we feel it is important to recognize the stimulative effect that passing an FAA Reauthorization bill will have on America's aviation workforce and the aviation infrastructure.

A comprehensive reauthorization of the FAA would provide desperately needed funding for airport and airway system improvements that will help make aviation safer and more efficient, while creating or maintaining tens of thousands of U.S. jobs. Investments in our national airspace infrastructure will enable the U.S. aviation system to improve its already-enviable safety record as well as increase capacity. Such investment can only be made through a comprehensive authorization package, which has been hamstrung by a series of extensions dating back to September 30, 2007.

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, multi-year bill that will help provide the resources necessary to help our country meet the demands being placed on the aviation system.

The aviation community stands united in its recognition of the importance of enacting multi-year FAA reauthorization legislation.

We look forward to working with both chambers in completing the FAA reauthorization process to ensure our nation's aviation system can safely expand in an efficient and environmentally sustainable manner.

Sincerely,

Aerospace Industries Association  
Air Carrier Association of America  
Air Line Pilots Association  
Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association  
Airport Consultants Council  
Airports Council Int'l - North America  
American Assoc. of Airport Executives  
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials  
Am. Council of Engineering Companies  
American Road and Transportation Builders Association  
American Society of Civil Engineers  
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees  
Association of Flight Attendants - CWA  
Assoc. of Metropolitan Planning Orgs.  
Cargo Airlines Association  
General Aviation Manufacturers Assoc.

Institute of Electric and Electronics Engineers-USA  
International Air Transport Association  
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers  
International Union of Operating Engineers  
National Air Traffic Controllers Association  
National Air Transportation Association  
National Aircraft Resale Association  
National Association of Counties  
National Association of Regional Councils  
National Assoc. of State Aviation Officials  
National Business Aviation Association  
National League of Cities  
National Sand, Stone and Gravel Association  
Portland Cement Association  
Professional Aviation Maintenance Assoc.  
Professional Aviation Safety Specialists

