



April 29, 2020

The Honorable Steven T. Mnuchin
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20220

Dear Secretary Mnuchin:

On behalf of the general aviation community, we sincerely appreciate the significant efforts by the Department of the Treasury to implement the Payroll Support Program for air carriers and other aviation businesses. The disbursement of funds to more than ninety passenger air carriers has supported employee wages, salaries, and benefits across the industry. To date, Treasury has not yet provided payment to air cargo operators and “contractors.” However, we understand that many applications are still being processed and want to underscore the significant challenges that passenger and cargo air carriers, and contractors are facing each day.

General aviation air carriers, including FAR Part 135 passenger and or cargo operators, are very diverse in terms of the scope and complexity of their operations. From on-demand air charter operators with a few aircraft to larger air carriers, air ambulance providers with hundreds of employees, and small air cargo operators providing critical supplies to rural America, each company has unique characteristics. We understand this presents complexities in terms of reviewing Payroll Support Program applications and appreciate the efforts to work directly with applicants.

As applications continue to be processed, we respectfully request that additional details on the timeline for a decision on payroll support payments are provided to applicants. With general aviation operations down more than 75-percent from just this March, air carriers and contractors face drastically reduced revenues, which makes maintaining prior employment levels potentially unsustainable. Providing applicants more detail as to when decisions on payroll support are expected would significantly inform their planning and business decisions during these uncertain times.

Finally, as part of the review process, we understand that applicants can receive requests to provide additional detail on their operations. This dialogue with Treasury is helpful; however, for these applicants, a point of contact or further instructions are not offered after the supplemental information is transmitted. To address this, we request that you provide a point of contact or more detailed instructions to applicants on the next steps after this initial communication.

Thank you for your efforts in addressing the unprecedented challenges our air transportation system is facing. We appreciate your willingness to engage with the general aviation community and the dedication you have shown to our industry.

Sincerely,

Helicopter Association International
National Air Transportation Association
National Business Aviation Association

cc: Brent J. McIntosh, Under Secretary for International Affairs
Dr. Michael Faulkender, Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy
David J. Kautter, Assistant Secretary for Tax Policy