

September 13, 2023

Senator Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Maria Cantwell
Chair
Senate Commerce, Science and
Transportation Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Ted Cruz
Ranking Member
Senate Commerce, Science and
Transportation Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Schumer, McConnell, Cantwell, and Cruz:

This is a critical and transformative time for the aviation industry. To keep pace, the FAA needs permanent leadership and clear direction.

In terms of leadership, President Biden has nominated Michael Whitaker to be the next FAA Administrator. We hope consideration of his nomination will be of the utmost priority for the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the U.S. Senate.

We also strongly urge that the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and the U.S. Senate move forward as soon as possible on an FAA Reauthorization bill. We greatly appreciate your engagement with stakeholders to date.

A completed FAA Reauthorization bill and a confirmed Administrator in 2023 will contribute in a substantial fashion to strengthening the agency's efforts in advancing safety, efficiency, infrastructure, and innovation, supporting the FAA's workforce, and enhancing the jobs and global competitiveness of the U.S. aviation industry.

We stand ready to work with you on the nomination and reauthorization, and your counterparts in the House who have already passed a FAA Reauthorization bill, to achieve both these results. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Aeronautical Repair Station Association
Aerospace Industries Association
Aircraft Electronics Association
Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
Airports Council International – North America
Air Traffic Control Association

American Association of Airport Executives
Association of Flight Attendants - CWA
Association for Uncrewed Vehicle Systems International
Aviation Technician Education Council
Cargo Airline Association
Commercial Drone Alliance
Experimental Aircraft Association
General Aviation Manufacturers Association
Helicopter Association International
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers
International Council of Air Shows
National Agricultural Aviation Association
National Air Traffic Controllers Association
National Air Transportation Association
National Association of State Aviation Officials
National Business Aviation Association
NetJets Association of Shared Aircraft Pilots
Professional Aviation Safety Specialists
Recreational Aviation Foundation
Small UAV Coalition
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Vertical Flight Society