

Paul Rinaldi and Trish Gilbert Team Update June 9th



LEGISLATION

TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS BILLS MOVING THROUGH BOTH CHAMBERS

The House Rules Committee issued an open rule for the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD), which is being considered on the floor this week. Likewise, the Senate's version of the THUD bill is making its way through the process and was voted on by the full committee last Thursday. NATCA continues to work with relevant appropriations staff to ensure that the FAA Operations account, as well as other FAA accounts, are properly funded. At the same time working against any harmful amendments that may be brought up under the open rule.

- The House THUD bill would provide \$52 billion in discretionary spending for the THUD departments, which is \$1.2 billion, or 2.4 percent, higher than FY 2014. It is also \$7.8 billion less than the

Administration's request. The bill would provide \$15.7 billion in total budgetary resources for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), which is \$7.3 million below the FY 2014 enacted level and \$446 million above the request. It would also provide full funding for all air traffic control personnel, including 14,800 air traffic controllers, and full funding for NextGen at \$852.4 million, and funds Contract Towers at \$140 million. This is the fourth spending bill to be marked up by the full Appropriations Committee.

- The Senate THUD Subcommittee received an allocation of \$2.4 billion (4.6 percent) more net total discretionary spending than its House counterpart. A gap that largely means that House and Senate leaders will probably have to intervene and agree on a final number before meaningful House-Senate conference negotiations on the bill can take place.



**NATCA's Erin Barry, Congressman Reichert, Aaron Rose -S46
and James Darlington - ZSE**

RETIREMENT BILL - (HR 4634)

This bill would reform tax law so that federal law enforcement officers and firefighters can access their retirement accounts without penalty when they are eligible to retire. Generally, under current law, a 10% penalty is added on top of normal tax amounts taken out of retirement accounts before the age of 59½. In 2006, Congress recognized that state and local public safety officials should be able to access their accounts without penalty at age 50 due to the fact that many of these officials are eligible to retire at earlier ages due to the unique and hazardous nature of the work they perform. Congressmen Pascrell and Reichert's bill would simply extend this benefit to federal law enforcement and firefighters, who are eligible to retire after 20 years of service at age 50. Last week Government Affairs staff met with Rep. Reichert and his staff to discuss this bill, which they advocate to establish parity between state and local law enforcement officers/firefighters and federal law enforcement officers/firefighters. ATC was not included in the original bill because we do not have state counterparts, but Reps Reichert and Pascrell support adding ATC into the bill, likely through an amendment. NATCA will

continue to work with both offices on this bill. However it is likely that this bill will not move this Congress and will have to be introduced again next Congress.

EMPOWER EMPLOYEES ACT - (HR 2145)

Introduced on May 30th, this bill would prohibit the federal government from automatically deducting union dues from federal employees' paychecks. A similar bill was introduced last term as HR 2145 by now-Sen. Tim Scott. The bill does not prohibit an employee from joining a union but merely makes the collection of union dues a transaction solely between the union and union member. NATCA has fought this type of action before and a similar bill never saw any committee action. Automatically deducting union dues requires a simple administrative payroll adjustment. On the other hand, not allowing the automatic deduction of dues is a union-busting approach that reduces dues contributions. NATCA will continue to work with the House and our Federal-Postal Employee Coalition on this bill as we closely monitor it.



STAPLES is now on the AFL-CIO Boycott List!

The Staples deal with the Postal Service will replace full-service U.S. Post Offices with knock-off post offices in Staples stores that are not staffed with U.S. Postal Service employees. The deal has blown up into a major confrontation between the Postal Service and its main union. The postal workers contend the Staples deal amounts to privatization of



NATCA Flyers Set to GO!!

On June 14th, Eddie DeLisle, Brody McCray, Jim Marinitti, and Jay Barrett will start their adventure competing in Race Across America (RAAM), a non-stop bicycle race across the country to raise money for the [NATCA Charitable Foundation \(NCF\)](#).

[TEAM WEBSITE](#)

[HOW TO DONATE](#)



Proposed Constitutional, Standing Rules & Policy & Position Statements Changes

The Constitution Committee met at the National Office this week to continue preparations for the Minneapolis Convention this fall.

Among some of the things they discussed were the proposed amendments to the Constitution as well as integrating new technology into Convention to allow

a basic government function, and they have run protests outside the company's stores. [AFL-CIO joins boycott](#)

[TEAM PHOTO GALLERY](#)

members easier access to the Constitution.

[Convention Registration is now open](#)



THE NATCA DIFFERENCE

We have had almost 400 new members join NATCA. We have all been doing an amazing job increasing our membership, but now that we are in open season we have to step it up even more!

As part of NATCA's team, we are asking for your help to grow our Union. The NATCA Difference campaign will give us the best chance to increase NATCA's membership numbers among all bargaining units and encourage greater activism within our membership.

We are asking you, as a member of NATCA, to reach out to nonmembers and ask them to join NATCA.

The membership application now includes a "referred by" line. Please use this form to be eligible for the \$25 gift card.

Here are the new membership forms:

- [General Membership form with recruiter info at top](#)
- [1187 Dues deduction form \(All FAA Employees\)](#)
- [Dues Check Off form \(Contract Tower Controllers\)](#)

Thank you for taking an active role in advancing your union. Your commitment and passion is invaluable to the success of NATCA. Together we are even stronger.

For more information, please see our organizing website at www.thenatcadifference.com.

The NATCA Difference: Region X VP Mike MacDonald

This Week

We started the week with the NextGen Advisory Committee (NAC). We also attended other aviation events held by Eno Transportation on Thursday night and the RTCA symposium that was held Wednesday and Thursday.

Between all of the aviation events this week we were able to discuss many issues important to the NAS with NBAA, AAAE, RTCA, AOPA, FAA, A4A and ALPA just to name a few.

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Paul Rinaldi - NATCA President



Trish Gilbert - NATCA EVP



NATCA in Washington: A
Tribute to Congressman
Jim Oberstar

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