



Progress in House and Senate on Legislation to Protect FAA from Future Shutdowns

Following the 35-day government shutdown that wreaked havoc on the National Airspace System and aviation safety professionals, House Transportation & Infrastructure (T&I) Committee Chairman Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., and Aviation Subcommittee Chairman Rick Larsen, D-Wash. introduced H.R. 1108, the Aviation Funding Stability Act of 2019. The lead Republican on the legislation is Rep. Bob Gibbs of Ohio, a senior member of the House T&I Committee. This legislation would authorize the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to draw from the Airport & Airway Trust Fund (AATF) in the event of a government shutdown.

After careful review and consideration, NATCA [decided to support](#) the bill because it fully aligns with NATCA's policies, practices, and core principles. NATCA's National Legislative Committee (NLC), NATCA activists, and National Office Government Affairs Department staff have been aggressively working to encourage members of Congress to sign on as cosponsors to H.R. 1108. While the legislation faces hurdles and political challenges, especially among members and staff of the House and Senate Appropriations Committee, the bill [has quickly garnered 124 bipartisan cosponsors](#) in the short period of time since its introduction.

This week, Senator Jerry Moran, R-Kan., a strong supporter of NATCA and the aviation community, introduced S. 762, the Aviation Funding Stability Act of 2019. NATCA supports this bill, which is a companion bill to H.R. 1108, and contains identical legislative language. S. 762 has its own set of challenges and hurdles, some of which are similar to H.R. 1108. Having said that, we will continue our initial focus on the House bill, and then turn to the Senate bill once our work in the House is complete.

NATCA will keep you informed on all developments regarding these bills as the process continues.

NATCA in Washington



[Registration for NATCA in Washington 2019 continues through April 8.](#) This event is a tremendous opportunity for our Union to spend time on Capitol Hill, educating our elected officials about the vital work we do.

Whether you are a veteran attendee or a first-timer, we are confident that you will learn something new, build great relationships, and help our Union make our collective voice heard on Capitol Hill.

We know that getting leave is always a challenge. If you want to attend, but still trying to work out leave, we encourage you to register anyway. It is easier to drop a room from the room block than to add a room at the last minute.

It is our goal to have as many Congressional districts represented as possible at NATCA in Washington. First priority for attendance selection will be based on the Congressional districts in which registrants reside.

Visit niw.natca.net for detailed information on NATCA in Washington and the Union's legislative efforts. We are continually updating the website, so be sure to check back from time to time. If you have any additional questions, please email National Legislative Committee (NLC) Chairman Steve Weidner, steve.weidner@natca.net.

NATCA in Washington 2019 T-Shirt Contest



2019 Legislative Activism T-Shirt Design Contest

Rules

- Entry period open until April 2nd, 2019.
- NATCA Logo or NATCA Legislative Logo must be incorporated into design.
- T-Shirt must be Legislatively themed.
- No use of trademarked or copyrighted logos or slogans.
- No advocating for or against a political party, candidate for a partisan political office or partisan political group.
- Must be appropriate for workplace wear (no profanity, no Hatch Act violations).
- Design cannot be so intricate that the details are difficult to see.
- The winner will be announced at NATCA in Washington in May.
- Winner will receive a \$350 gift certificate or an iPad mini. Second place will receive a \$100 gift certificate.

All submissions become property of NATCA.
All submissions must be submitted from a NATCA member in good standing.

Contact

Submit your design to
NLC Chairman
Steve Weidner at:
Steve.weidner@natca.net

2018 Winner

2017 Winning Design




Do you have the creative genes to make a design representing NATCA's activism? If so, this contest is for you. Back by popular demand, the legislative activism T-shirt design contest is accepting all entries through April 2. The design must be legislatively-themed and have easy and clear visibility on a T-shirt. The use of trademarked or copyrighted logos or slogans is prohibited. See the flyer for other directions. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Steve Weidner, steve.weidner@natca.net.

NATCA Activism in Local Districts

NEW ENGLAND: Region Hosts Its First Legislative Activism Training Class



The NATCA New England (NNE) Region recently hosted its first regional Legislative Activism Training class. As another first, a member of Congress -- New Hampshire Congresswoman Annie Kuster -- visited the class. She spoke about NATCA's incredible legislative outreach and strong credibility and respect amongst members of Congress and on Capitol Hill. She talked about how NATCA members' multi-step approach -- emails, phone calls, handwritten letters, and in-person meetings -- made a huge impact on her and her colleagues and was highly effective on informing and educating members of Congress about how the shutdown was affecting the safety and efficiency of the National Airspace System.

Attendees also practiced mock meetings with members of Congress, honing their skills to represent NATCA members to the best of their ability. Boston TRACON (A90) member and NNE Legislative Rep Andre Jean, Jacksonville Center member (ZJX) Paul Behan, and Denver/Centennial ATCT (APA) Legislative Rep Jenny Benjamin facilitated the training.

"Educating, mentoring, and empowering are the three fundamental goals of the NNE leadership team," said NNE Regional Vice President Mick Devine. "By bringing the classes directly to New England, we are able to save the locals money, and more importantly, we are able to get half a decade's worth of New England activists trained in one class. We are building New England's army of next generation leadership one class at a time. This is our highest priority."

"The class was an overwhelming success," Behan said. "We were able to train 18 new activists which -- under the traditional NATCA Academy format -- would have taken nearly a decade as each region is afforded only two seats per national class."

Contact your [Regional Vice President](#) for upcoming training opportunities in your region.

VIRGINIA: Controllers Discuss Effects of the Shutdown with Senators



Washington Center (ZDC) members Ethan Moore and Christopher Lopez, Dulles Tower (IAD) members Amira Snow-Richardson and Laura Lopez, and Potomac TRACON (PCT) member Jonathan Blackwell met with U.S. Senators Tim Kaine and Mark Warner of Virginia to discuss the effects the government shutdown was having on their everyday lives, how it was setting a bad example for new prospective government workers, and how it led to talent losses to the private sector.

RHODE ISLAND: Controllers Participate in Press Conference



Members from Providence ATCT (PVD) participated in a press conference set up by Rhode Island Congressman Jim Langevin at T.F. Green Airport during the shutdown. Legislative Rep Jamie Green and member Juan Ledesma were present and spoke about the harm being done to federal employees in Rhode Island. Representing labor at the press conference were Peter Geddis (PVD FacRep), George Nee (AFL-CIO Rhode Island President), and Frank Womack (American Federation of Government Employees, National Representative representing TSA). To read the local news article and view the press conference, [click here](#). Geddis begins speaking at the 19-minute mark.

WEST VIRGINIA: Controllers Meet with Sen. Manchin



U.S. Senator Joe Manchin of West Virginia hosted a roundtable event with federal workers who were being affected by the shutdown. After the event, Clarksburg ATCT (CKB) controllers were able to personally meet with and talk to Senator Manchin.

In the photo from left to right are CKB members Rustin Cothorn, Treasurer Adam Chafins, FacRep Jeffrey Haberland, Senator Manchin, OSHA Rep Forrest Deluca, Legislative Rep Timothy Krainak, and Christopher Dobinson. Not pictured but in attendance was Kevin Williams.

MINNESOTA: Representative Hosts Aviation Roundtable



Minnesota Congresswoman Angie Craig held a roundtable at Airlake Airport in Lakeville, Minn., with aviation safety officials and industry members to talk about safety and infrastructure needs. Minneapolis Center (ZMP) Legislative Rep Mitch Becker and ZMP member Dhruv Kalra represented NATCA.

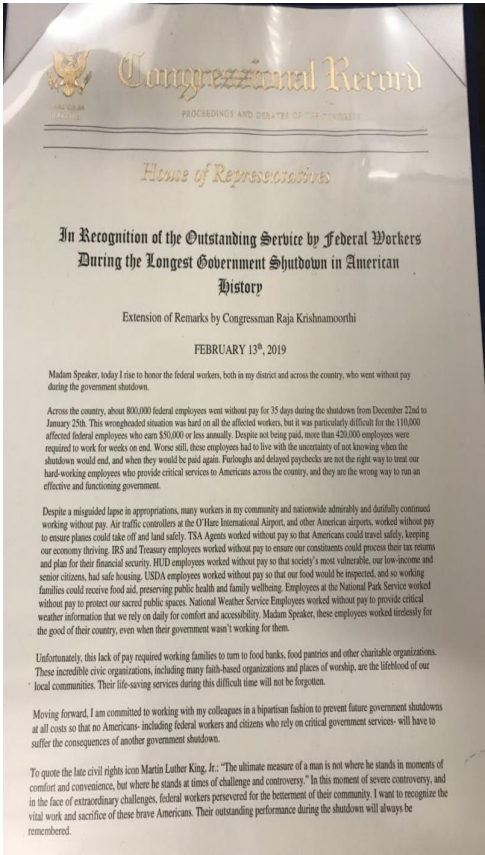
Becker said, "Private pilots, flight instructors, cargo pilots, corporate pilots, FAAMA (FAA Managers Association), and NATCA were in attendance. We spent about two hours discussing issues related to all aspects of aviation and gave the Congresswoman a better understanding of everything aviation."

In her weekly newsletter, she wrote about the event, "As a member of the Aviation Subcommittee on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I'm committed to listening to the concerns and experiences of stakeholders in the aviation industry, so that I can get to work on policies that will improve infrastructure and support our workers who keep our skies safe."

ILLINOIS: Congressman Presents Controller with Official Document for Congressional Record

Illinois Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi presented Chicago Center (ZAU) FacRep Toby Hauck with the official document he entered into the Congressional Record, thanking federal employees.

"The Congressman is very proud of us federal workers who worked through the shutdown," Hauck said. "What an honor to accept this on behalf of all our membership."



PUERTO RICO: Controllers Host Congresswoman González-Colón



Puerto Rico Congresswoman Jenniffer González-Colón recently visited and received a tour of San Juan Tower (SJU) and CERAP (ZSU) from SJU FacRep Hector Montañez and ZSU FacRep Woody Camp. González-Colón recently was appointed to the Transportation and Infrastructure committee and is a cosponsor of H.R. 1108, Aviation Funding Stability Act of 2019. She has been assisting the facilities with the restoration of shore power to the long range radar site and Remote Communications Air/Ground (RCAG) on top of El Yunque National Forest, among other issues.

"The visit to our facilities in Puerto Rico was a first for the Representative and a big eye opener for her to see how vital our operation is to the island," Camp said. "She told us that our facilities are the lifelines of Puerto Rico and Caribbean."

NEW MEXICO: Congresswoman Haaland Tours Albuquerque Center



New Mexico Congresswoman Deb Haaland and her district staff recently visited Albuquerque Center (ZAB). They toured the facilities training department, the test and training lab, and the control room. They saw firsthand the important work NATCA members do 24/7, 365 days a year. Haaland is a cosponsor of H.R. 1108, Aviation Funding Stability Act of 2019.

Pictured from left to right are ZAB members Travis Hatcher, Congresswoman Haaland, FacRep Daniel Watson, and Legislative Rep Derek Bray.

NATCA's Efforts Affect Members of Congress

Over the course of the government shutdown, nearly 150 NATCA activists made their way to Washington to meet with Congress. They carried out several missions--on behalf of you, their NATCA brothers and sisters--and attempted to make contact with members and congressional staff in all 535 offices in the House and Senate. Congress took note, understood the influence and effect that was being made, and took the time to tell social media about it. NATCA's legislative activism makes a dramatic difference. You can make a difference too -- [register for NiW](#) before April 8.

Rep. Vicente Gonzalez  @RepGonzalez · Jan 10

Today, Air Traffic Controller, Nick Daniels, stopped by the Washington, D.C. office on behalf of the @NATCA to share the effects of the #TrumpShutdown. This week I am supporting legislation to re-open the government. I ask every Member of Congress to do the same.



 3  3  5 

BECOME AN ACTIVIST

Stay Connected



1325 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, D.C., 20005 202.628.5451

NATCA, 1325 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington, DC 20005

[SafeUnsubscribe™ {recipient's email}](#)

[Forward this email](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Customer Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by natcanationaloffice@natcadc.org