



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Last night, members of Congress reported that there was a congressional agreement in principle on government funding that, if enacted, would avert another government shutdown later this week. Although we are pleased that the negotiations have resulted in an agreement in principle, we now have three days remaining until the three-week continuing resolution (CR) that ended the recent 35-day shutdown on Jan. 25 expires. The House and Senate must pass legislation, and the President must agree to sign it into law before Saturday, Feb. 16, at 12:01 a.m. EST. Unless there is an agreement or another CR is passed by that deadline, federal appropriations authority for certain federal agencies and departments, including the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), would lapse, and those agencies and departments would be shut down for the fourth time in the last 13 months.

This would be devastating to all of you and the National Airspace System (NAS). It would degrade safety and is unsustainable.

Even with this tentative congressional agreement in principle, we are not taking anything for granted. Our Union is aggressively fighting on multiple fronts to keep the government open. Since the end of the last shutdown, NATCA has delivered a loud and clear message to Congress and the Administration that the 35-day government shutdown was unacceptable, had severe and lasting effects on the NAS, its employees, and the safety of the system, and cannot be repeated on Feb. 16, or ever again. Our message is being delivered to Capitol Hill through an action plan that has and will continue to increase the volume. The action items include

releasing NATCA-led aviation coalition letters, testifying at a congressional hearing, reaching out to national and local media, communicating with members, and engaging in potential rallies. You will see much of this happen this week, including these highlights:

■ Earlier today, we began another mini lobby week with 75 NATCA activists arriving here in Washington, D.C., and preparing to return to Capitol Hill to meet with members of Congress and their staff. Their message is two-fold: first, keep the government open and avoid another shutdown at the end of this week, and second, pass H.R. 1108, the Aviation Funding Stability Act of 2019, introduced by U.S. House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Chairman Peter DeFazio (Ore.), and Aviation Subcommittee Chairman Rick Larsen (Wash.), that would authorize the FAA to draw from the Airport & Airway Trust Fund (AATF) in the event of a government shutdown. [As we reported to you last Friday, Feb. 8](#), the bill will provide a limited, targeted way of ensuring stability for the aviation system by ensuring that all FAA programs, projects, and activities would continue uninterrupted. NATCA strongly supports the bill.

■ On Wednesday, Feb. 13, Paul will testify before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Subcommittee on Aviation, at a hearing entitled "Putting U.S. Aviation Safety at Risk: The Impact of the Shutdown." You can watch the hearing live, starting at 10 a.m. EST, on the Committee's website [here](#).

With the NAS still reeling from the negative effects of the recent 35-day government shutdown, Paul will deliver an impassioned message about how the shutdown eroded the layers of critical elements necessary to support and maintain the safety of the NAS. He will also detail how all of you were negatively affected by stress, fatigue, and distraction caused by the shutdown and the uncertainty about when it would end. He will brief the Committee on the costs to taxpayers, including the shutdown-related delays to critical safety programs, and will explain why we cannot allow another shutdown to happen on Feb. 16, or ever again.

As this week unfolds, we will update you on all news and developments.

In solidarity,

Paul and Trish



Support for Bill Ensuring Stability in the NAS

Today, NATCA, along with 39 other aviation organizations, sent a letter to Chairman DeFazio, Chairman Larsen, and the ranking members of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and Subcommittee on Aviation in support of the Aviation Funding Stability Act of 2019 (H.R. 1108). This Act would authorize the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to draw from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund (AATF) in the event of any future government shutdowns. NATCA and the other stakeholders gave their support of the legislation ensuring continued aviation funding, and safety and efficiency for the flying public. [Click here](#) to view the letter.



NATCA's Pay Calculator

NATCA has developed a pay calculator to be used by members to recreate Leave and Earning Statements (LES). This tool can be used to validate earnings and deductions from any pay period in 2018 or 2019, but was created to assist members with recreating missing LES due to the recent government shutdown.

The calculator requires Microsoft Excel to perform the calculations and PowerPoint to view the slide deck with instructions and notes on using the tool. Report any bugs and send questions to: paycalculator@natca.net

[Click here](#) to view the PowerPoint presentation and to download the Pay Calculator.

12 NATCA Members Attend State of the Union Address as Guests of Members of Congress

NATCA members from across the country had the privilege of representing their Union brothers and sisters while attending the President's State of the Union address before a joint session of Congress on Feb. 5. They were invited by their members of Congress as special guests to highlight the vital work performed by our 20,000 NATCA-represented aviation safety professionals.



House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, PVD member Jamie Green, and Congressman David Cicilline.



PSP member Shyan Lasater-Bailey, Congressman Mark Takano, Congresswoman Katie Hill, and JCF member Chrissy Lewis.

NATCA members attending included:

- NATCA President Paul Rinaldi, guest of U.S. Senator Tim Kaine (Va.);

- Jeff Aulbach (Boston Air Route Traffic Control Center), guest of U.S. Congresswoman Annie Kuster (N.H.);
- Ronan Byrne (New York Terminal Radar Approach Control), guest of U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer (N.Y.);
- Allen Fritz (Reading Air Traffic Control Tower), guest of U.S. Congressman Matt Cartwright (Pa.);
- Jamie Green (Providence Air Traffic Control Tower), guest of U.S. Congressman David Cicilline (R.I.);
- Toby Hauck (Chicago Air Route Traffic Control Center), guest of U.S. Senator Dick Durbin (Ill.);
- Shyan Lasater-Bailey (Palm Springs Air Traffic Control Tower), guest of U.S. Congressman Mark Takano (Calif.);
- Chrissy Lewis (Joshua Control Facility), guest of U.S. Congresswoman Katie Hill (Calif.);
- Kevin Maney (New York Terminal Radar Approach Control), guest of U.S. Congressman Tom Suozzi (N.Y.);
- Linda McCray (Washington Air Route Traffic Control Center), guest of U.S. Congresswoman Jennifer Wexton (Va.);
- Alex Navarro (Seattle Air Route Traffic Control Center), guest of U.S. Senator Patty Murray (Wash.);
- and Trisha Pesiri-Dybvik (Santa Barbara Air Traffic Control Tower), guest of U.S. Senator Kamala Harris (Calif.).



NATCA members outside the National Office before attending the State of the Union address

Member Jamie Green relayed the message that she heard from so many lawmakers that night, "Thank you for your continued

dedication for the incredibly important job you do!"

Said Aulbach, in a press release that Rep. Kuster's office issued, "It's unfair to ask federal employees tasked with ensuring the safety of the American people to work without pay. Using federal employees as bargaining chips for people in Washington to achieve political goals hurts hardworking Americans and puts their safety at risk. This is unacceptable, and I appreciate the opportunity to join Congresswoman Kuster at the State of the Union as she continues her efforts to prevent another harmful shutdown."

Wrote Pesiri-Dybvik in a press release issued by Sen. Harris: "As my family and I have begun to rebuild after losing our home in the Thomas Fire, the hardship we faced during the government shutdown and the looming uncertainty of another potential shutdown-have added a further layer of stress to our already challenging situation.

"Further, as an air traffic control specialist I know that the shutdown eroded critical layers of safety within the National Airspace System and forced my NATCA brothers and sisters to show up at work with the burden of not knowing when their next paycheck would come. I am grateful to Senator Harris for inviting me to be the face of my fellow Californians who have been affected by the government shutdown and recent wildfires."

NATCA's College Scholarship Deadline

A college education is expensive! Without some kind of help, it's difficult for the average household to save enough money to fund a higher education. Thankfully NATCA offers an in-house scholarship program that can help pay for college expenses for your children or spouse, for all active, retired, and deceased members in good standing as a member for at least two years.

For application and details of the NATCA scholarship program, [click here](#). The deadline for the NATCA scholarship program is **March 1, 2019**.

For those members who are wanting to expand their own education, SRF-14 of the NATCA Constitution also provides an educational reimbursement fund for members in good standing who

are pursuing an approved degree at a NATCA-approved educational institution.

Approaching Deadline: Archie League Award



NATCA is currently accepting nominations of deserving aviation safety professionals for the 15th Annual Archie League Medal of Safety Award. The award was named for the first air traffic controller and highlights a variety of aviation "saves," some which involve a team of professionals working together, while others are the result of just one person's efforts. Any NATCA member can nominate another member in good standing, but the April 30, 2019 deadline is drawing near. [Click here](#) for more information. The awards will be presented on Sept. 18, 2019 at Communicating For Safety.

NATCA Academy 2019 Revised Schedule



The 2019 NATCA Academy schedule is available with revised dates. You can sign up on the [NATCA Membership Portal](#) (with the exception of LEAP, which is by invitation only).

Once you have logged in, select "NATCA Academy" from the quick links. Then, select "2019 Courses." If you need any help with registration, contact the Coordinator for your region. Registrants will be notified within 35 days from the course start date of their status for the course.

If you have any questions, please contact NATCA's Training Coordinator, Carolyn Kamara, at ckamara@natcadc.org.

2019 NATCA Academy Schedule

RT1	Representative Training 1	March 4-8	Las Vegas
RT1	Representative Training 1	April 29-May 3	Las Vegas
* NEW RT1	Representative Training 1	Aug. 26-30	Las Vegas
RT1	Representative Training 1	Oct. 7-11	Las Vegas
RT1	Representative Training 1	Dec. 2-6	Las Vegas
TRB	Training Review Board	Feb. 26-28	Dallas
TRB	Training Review Board	March 19-21	Atlanta
TRB	Training Review Board	April 9-11	Charlotte
LAT	Legislative Activism Training	April 9-10	Las Vegas
LAT	Legislative Activism Training	Sept. 4-5	Las Vegas
ALAT	Advanced LAT	April 16-18	Washington, D.C.
ALAT	Advanced LAT	Nov. 19-21	Washington, D.C.
STT	Secretary Treasurer Training	April 9-10	Las Vegas
STT	Secretary Treasurer Training	Sept. 4-5	Las Vegas

STT	Secretary Treasurer Training	Dec. 3-4	Las Vegas
LEAP	Leadership Experience Acceleration Project	Oct. 21-23	Airlie, Va.
DAC	Drug and Alcohol	April 24-25	Las Vegas
DAC	Drug and Alcohol	Oct. 16-17	Las Vegas
SAT	Safety Activism Training	April 30-May 1	Las Vegas
SAT	Safety Activism Training	Oct. 8-9	Las Vegas
PAR	Pre-Arbitration Review	May 7-9	Las Vegas
TRB	Training Review Board	May 7-9	Seattle
TRB	Training Review Board	Sept. 10-12	FAA Academy (OKC)
FCT	Federal Contract Tower	Nov. 13-14	Washington, D.C.
OSHA/OWCP	Occupational Safety and Health Administration / Office of Workers' Compensation Programs	Nov. 13-14	Las Vegas

NATCA Benefits: Teleflora and Gift Tree

It's almost Valentine's Day, a time to show our parents, grandparents, partners, spouses, and others how much they are loved and appreciated.



There is no better way to express that appreciation than with a beautiful bouquet of flowers or a gift basket filled with their favorite goodies! What makes it an even better idea is the fact that as a member of NATCA you qualify for a 20 percent discount with Teleflora and Gift Tree when you log on through the [Union Plus website](#). From small to large arrangements of flowers,

to food, wine and spa baskets, you're sure to find the perfect gift that tells that special someone you're thinking about them.

Great selection means a great gift; a great discount means a great price! No more problems showing up empty-handed on Valentine's Day! Go to www.natcabenefits.com and get started finding the perfect gift for your perfect someone!

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