



Senate Passes Advanced Air Mobility Coordination and Leadership Act with NATCA Amendment

Last week, the U.S. Senate passed the Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) Coordination and Leadership Act (S. 516). The bill — like legislation passed by the U.S. House of Representatives in November 2021 (H.R. 1339) — would establish a federal interagency working group consisting of the Department of Transportation, the Federal Aviation Administration, and other federal agency officials and aviation stakeholders to examine issues related to safety, operations, and infrastructure of AAM aircraft.



AAM is a newly developing form of aviation to move people and cargo between places not currently or easily served by surface transportation or existing aviation. Sometimes AAM is also called urban air mobility (UAM), although potential applications for this form of transportation could extend beyond high-density urban centers to local and regional transportation. These aircraft will likely range in size from single-passenger aircraft to shuttles carrying multiple people.

Both S. 516 and H.R. 1339 include an amendment requested by NATCA to ensure our Union has a seat at the table for this discussion of AAM deployment. NATCA worked with the bill's sponsor in the Senate, Sen. Jerry Moran (R-KS), and the Senate committee of jurisdiction, the Senate Commerce Committee, to ensure that change was included. The bill will now go back to the House for consideration, where it's likely to pass, and then be signed into law.

About the passage of this legislation, NATCA President Rich Santa stated, "As the FAA continues to develop a viable concept of operations for UAS and AAM, this legislation ensures that NATCA will have a critical seat at the table as this working group of government and aviation stakeholders

examines key issues related to safety, operations, and infrastructure concerning the potential deployment /of these aircraft. The early involvement of the frontline air traffic workforce is essential for the successful integration of these new technologies. We thank Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle who worked with NATCA on this legislation.”

Tennessee Congressman John Rose’s Staffer Reaches out to NATCA for Expertise



The airport manager at Upper Cumberland Regional Airport in Tennessee requested federal funding to have a remote communications air/ground (RCAG) site placed on or in the vicinity of the airport. Graham Conlan, who handles the transportation portfolio for Tennessee Congressman John Rose, reached out to talk to Memphis Center (ZME) member and Tennessee State Coordinator Ike Munn and members

Sean Hartman and Scott Roach to get a better understanding of the radio coverage in the area and how big of a problem it is.

“I acted as the moderator,” said Munn, “and Hartman, who has worked in that particular area of ZME for 16 years, was the subject matter expert. Roach, who is the ZME facility technology rep, was there to help answer questions and provide any further input as he was a controller in the area previously and keeps currency there.

“We were able to show Graham an airspace map of the area to show relevant facility boundaries and current RCAG sites. We then used a sectional map to give examples of generally where our radio coverage is spotty or nonexistent. We also gave examples of when the lack of radio coverage can be a problem in everyday operations.

“He thanked us for educating him on the subject and said that he looked forward to seeing us during NATCA in Washington.”

NLC NWP Rep Skarphol Meets with Arizona Senator Sinema and Congressman Stanton

Phoenix TRACON (P50) member and National Legislative Committee (NLC) Western Pacific Region (NWP) Rep David Skarphol recently attended an event with Arizona Senator Kyrsten Sinema. “When I saw her, she immediately

told me she had a great call with NATCA President Rich Santa earlier in the week,” said Skarphol. “We then spent time reminiscing about when she and I first met in 2011 and NATCA's early support for her House campaign. I also interacted several times with her Chief of Staff Meg Joseph. Joseph is very interested in seeing what it's like to be a controller, and we are making plans for her to tour P50 in the summer.



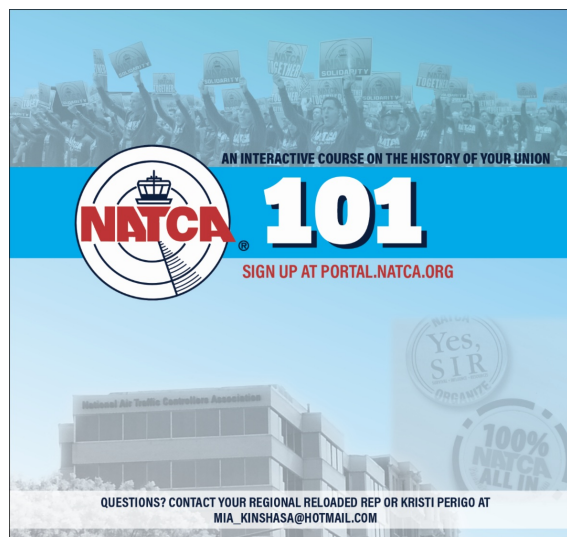
“During that same weekend, I was able to attend an event with Arizona Congressman Greg Stanton. The congressman found me after his speech and thanked NATCA and the Arizona aviation safety professionals for our continued support. He introduced me to New York Congressman Hakeem Jeffries who was in attendance and knew who NATCA was and thanked us for the work we do keeping the flying public safe.”

Reloaded to Host NATCA 101: April 15, 11 a.m. EDT

The Reloaded Committee will hold its monthly NATCA 101 class on April 15, at 11 a.m. EDT. NATCA 101 is about the history of the organization, the work the Union does for its members every day, and insight for how members can become more involved.

About NATCA 101 training, Reloaded Committee Chair Dawn Johnson said, “We hope that you will take this opportunity to learn more about your Union, your rights, and how you can become more active in the areas that interest you. Having the basic knowledge about NATCA and then using that knowledge to start getting more involved are the first steps toward a stronger local, a more powerful national Union, and a better future for our profession and you and your family.”

Register at portal.natca.org.



OSHA Committee Update

OSHA Committee Chair and National OSHECCOM (Occupational Safety, Health, and Environmental Compliance Committee) chair Karena Marinas,



National OSHECCOM Vice Chair Austin Aurandt, the FAA's designated agency safety and health official (DASHO) Jeff Planty, and DASHO Support Group Manager Rene Filipowski briefed FAA Deputy Administrator Brad Mims on the status of the national OSHECCOM and the FAA occupational safety and health programs. These briefings take place twice a year. The topics discussed

included COVID-19, the FAA's annual report to OSHA, the public access defibrillator (PAD) program, and OSHA inspections. Mims and the rest of the deputies thanked the team and the national OSHECCOM members for their collaborative work and successes in workplace safety.

CISM Update

As aviation safety professionals, we don't want to think an incident or accident can happen to us, but it can. Even when the incident isn't work-related, it can still have an impact on you while at work. The Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Committee can help you manage the stress associated with an event you are struggling with. The CISM Committee is a group of aviation safety professionals with specialized training in acute stress mitigation. They can help you understand what you may experience after an event and provide you with techniques and resources to help you get through it. If you'd like to speak with a committee member, they can be reached via telephone at 202-505-CISM or email at cism@natca.net. Visit the [CISM webpage](#) for more information. If a conversation with a committee member isn't enough or not exactly what you're needing, the committee can safely help point you in the right direction.



Employee Assistance Program Committee Update

Benefits of the **WORKLIFE SOLUTIONS/EAP**

01

COUNSELING

8 free counseling sessions per issue per 12 months offered to you and anyone living under your roof (doesn't have to be your dependent)

02

FINANCIAL WELLNESS

Would you like to improve your financial wellness? A financial wellness program through WorkLife Solutions can help you take control of your monthly finances, avoid pitfalls, and achieve financial goals.

03

QUESTIONS & CONTACTS

MAGELLANASCEND.COM offers a variety of tools and resources online or Call
800-234-1327
worklife@natca.net



Would you like to improve your financial wellness? A financial wellness program through WorkLife Solutions can help you take control of your monthly finances, avoid pitfalls, and achieve financial goals. All members are allotted three, 30-minute sessions per topic per year with a financial coach who will perform an assessment and create a personalized action plan.

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Committee is a workgroup that interfaces with the FAA on all issues related to the EAP/WorkLife program under Article 57.

To learn more about the counseling sessions, financial wellness, or any other WorkLife Solutions benefits, please contact the EAP Committee at worklife@natca.net.

To use any of these services, please contact Magellan WorkLife Solutions at 800-234-1327.

In-Person and Online Retirement Workshops Scheduled

Whether you're still building for your future in retirement or ready to put your retirement plan into action, one of the most important member benefits that NATCA provides its members is expert retirement planning and guidance. This year, we

are pleased to offer you a mix of online and in person briefings provided by 4 Square Financial Literacy Partners, Inc. They can help you maximize your federal benefits to meet your retirement goals. Spouses are also encouraged to attend.

View the full schedule [here](#).

Use the NATCA Portal to register, portal.natca.org. Click on the “events” tab in the main menu at the top of the screen.

For questions or any problems with registration, please contact NATCA Membership Services Coordinator Lisa Head at the National Office: 202-628-5451 or lhead@natcadc.org.

In-Person and Online Retirement Workshops



4 Square Financial
Literacy Partners, Inc.

[Visit our Website](#)



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