NATCA Signs on to Letters to Congress in Solidarity with Aviation Unions

NATCA recently signed on to two letters that were sent to Congress in solidarity with other aviation labor unions.

The first letter, which was sent to all members of the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate, opposed increasing the mandatory pilot retirement age, stating that such a change would cause unintended consequences and that Congress must always prioritize the safety of passengers and aviation workers. Other labor organizations that signed the letter, along with NATCA, included the Air Line Pilots Association, Association of Flight Attendants, International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, Professional Aviation Safety Specialists, Transport Workers Union of America, and the Transportation Trades Department (TTD) of the AFL-CIO.

NATCA also signed a letter, which was sent to U.S. House Rules Committee leadership, supporting a bipartisan amendment to ensure foreign airlines who seek a permit to operate in the United States do so under conditions consistent with our existing international agreements that require fair labor standards and fair competition. The letter asked Congress to prohibit any federal funding to approve new foreign air carrier permits unless the Department of Transportation demonstrates that the air carrier permit would meet these standards. Twenty-six labor unions and TTD affiliates
signed on to the letter, and the amendment was approved by the U.S. House. NATCA will continue to support the amendment’s inclusion in any final appropriations legislation enacted by Congress.

Read the letters here: [letter opposing increasing the mandatory pilot retirement age](#) | [letter asking Congress to prohibit any federal funding to approve new foreign air carrier permits unless the DOT demonstrates that the air carrier permit would meet fair labor standards](#).

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**NATCA New Jersey Legislative Coordinator at Event with Reps. Van Drew & Scalise**

NATCA New Jersey Legislative Coordinator TJ Woodyard (Atlantic City ATCT, ACY) attended an event with Congressman Jeff Van Drew (NJ-01) and Minority Whip Congressman Steve Scalise (LA-01).

“At the event I had a few minutes to speak with Congressman Van Drew and discussed the staffing challenges we are facing at ACY as well as more broadly nationwide,” Woodyard said. “We also spoke about the importance of stable and predictable funding, and the upcoming need for reauthorization for the FAA. I thanked him for all of his past support and he thanked us for our service to the flying public.”

In speaking with Congressman Scalise, Woodyard said Scalise fondly recalled a trip he made to New Orleans Moisant ATCT (MSY). Woodyard also took the opportunity to invite both members to visit and tour any NATCA facilities either in their districts or near Washington.
NATCA Holds Enrollment Open Season for Long-Term Disability Program

NATCA group long-term disability insurance from Unum provides peace of mind and financial security to aviation safety professionals. Protect yourself and your family now, as NATCA is holding an enrollment open season for the first time in two years. Learn more and enroll at natcadisability.com.