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Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Last week, U.S. House of Representatives Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I) Committee Chairman Bill Shuster (R-Pa.-9) released a statement about the status of H.R. 2997 - the 21st Century Aviation Innovation, Reform, and Reauthorization (21st Century AIRR) Act - and about the path forward on Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reauthorization. If enacted, this legislation would transition In his statement, Chairman Shuster conceded that there is not enough congressional support to pass the 21st Century AIRR Act in its current form, which would have transitioned the air traffic control system to an independent, federally chartered, not-for-profit corporation to run the air traffic control system. Chairman Shuster concluded his statement by stressing his intention to work with Senator Thune on a reauthorization bill to provide long-term stability for the FAA.

NATCA has already begun discussions about shaping the new path for FAA reauthorization legislation. Our willingness to engage members of Congress on the subject over the past several years ensures our continued involvement as they move forward on new proposals. With potential for new reform options, it is critically important that we remain in the room so that we can best protect our members and the National Airspace System (NAS) as this process moves forward.

The NAS requires and deserves a stable, predictable funding stream. Two government shutdowns so far in 2018 further illustrate that the status quo is broken. Stop-and-go funding crises caused by continuing resolutions - punctuated by shutdowns - and short-term extensions to FAA authorization slow the hiring and training process for air traffic controllers. These funding crises perpetuate the current controller staffing crisis, which has resulted in a 29-year low of certified professional controllers.

March is already upon us and there are two upcoming deadlines that present clear and present challenges:

March 23: Congress passed a broad, bipartisan budget agreement earlier this month that included a six-week continuing resolution (CR) to keep the government open and funded at current levels until March 23. Congress now has until March 23 to enact a longer-term appropriations bill effectuating the new budget caps.

March 31: The current FAA authorization extension is set to expire on March 31. Chairman Shuster's announcement now means that Congress will pass another extension while the next House proposal for a FAA reauthorization bill is worked on. The Senate Commerce Committee also will need to move an FAA reauthorization bill before the bill can be considered on the Senate floor.

We will continue to update you as appropriations and reauthorization efforts in the House and Senate move forward.

In the meantime, [registration](#) is now open for NATCA in Washington 2018. It will take place Monday, May 21 to Wednesday, May 23. The deadline for registration is April 9. NATCA works to have as many Congressional districts represented as possible, and participants will be selected based on the Congressional districts in which they reside.

If you wish to attend but are unsure if your leave will be approved, go ahead and [register](#). Attendance confirmation will be sent out on or about the week of April 16. This will give you adequate time to take advantage of advanced-purchase airfare. **DO NOT** purchase airline tickets until you have received confirmation from your regional [National Legislative Committee](#) member that you will be attending **AND** approval from your local e-board.

In solidarity,

Paul Rinaldi, NATCA President
Trish Gilbert, NATCA Executive Vice President





Enter Legislative Activism T-Shirt Design Contest

The National Legislative Committee (NLC) hosts a legislative T-shirt design contest each year, allowing members the ability to submit designs for the upcoming year's legislative T-shirt. The NLC votes on the winner whose design will be featured on the shirt. In addition, the winner will receive a \$350 gift certificate or an iPad mini. A second place winner will receive a \$100 gift certificate. The winner will be announced at NATCA in Washington in May.

Official Contest Rules:

- [NATCA Logo](#) or [NATCA Legislative Logo](#) must be incorporated into design.
- No advocating for or against a political party, candidate for a partisan political office or partisan political group.
- No use of trademarked or copyrighted logos or slogans.
- T-shirt must be legislatively themed.
- Design cannot be so intricate that the details are difficult to see.
- Design must be appropriate for workplace wear (no profanity, [no Hatch Act violations](#)).
- All submissions become property of NATCA.
- Only designs from NATCA members in good standing will be considered.

Email your design to steve.weidner@natca.net.



New NATCA Member Benefit: Office Depot / OfficeMax

Announcing a new NATCA benefit: NATCA Members now can save up to 80 percent on more than 93,000 products from Office Depot & OfficeMax! Office Depot & OfficeMax are there for your printing and cleaning and office supply needs. Shop online or in any Office Depot or OfficeMax store. Enjoy FREE next-day delivery on online orders over \$50. NATCA members will be receiving a Store Purchasing Card in April via U.S. Postal Service that can be used in-store to obtain your discount. If you can't wait, [visit the NATCA Benefits website](#) to print a FREE Store Purchasing Card.

If you're coming to the NATCA 17th Biennial Convention in Philadelphia in April, stop by the NATCA Benefits Committee booth for more information about this and other exciting new benefits only available to NATCA members.

Unum Long-Term Disability Insurance: Plan Ahead

If you couldn't go to work for a month, a year, or longer, how would you cover your bills? NATCA has partnered with Unum insurance to offer an affordable long-term disability insurance available only for NATCA members. Given the

nature of our work, and the strict medical requirements we are subject to, the NATCA/Unum plan allows members to provide a level of financial security for yourself and your family in the event of unforeseen circumstances. [Learn more here](#) and calculate the coverage you need today.

Enroll today. Anyone who enrolls before April 1st will be entered into a drawing for a new iPad. Current Plan Participants who refer new enrollees will be entered into a drawing to win a \$250 Visa Gift Card. For each new member a current plan participant refers, the current plan participant will earn one drawing entry for the gift card. Five referrals will earn the current plan participant five drawing entries.



Volunteers Needed at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2018

The Experimental Aircraft Association's (EAA) AirVenture Oshkosh 2018 is just around the corner! This year's event is July 23-29. NATCA volunteers will begin setting up our booth on July 19. There are multiple openings for volunteers to assist NATCA with this year's event. Below is a detailed description of what is expected:

- All bargaining unit volunteers are on their own time via annual leave, RDOs, etc.
- NATCA will provide lodging (shared house) and pay expenses for food. Due to the large number of volunteers and limited bed space, no accommodations are available for any friends or family members of volunteers.
- Bargaining Unit Members are responsible for their transportation to and from the event.
- A minimum of three (3) days working at the event (July 22-29) is requested.

- We prefer that volunteers are available for at least five (5) days during the event, because it helps to have more overlap, but we understand it may be too much to ask for five days during prime-time leave.

In addition to working in the NATCA booth at EAA AirVenture, NATCA is looking for volunteers that would also assist in these other Oshkosh venues:

KIDVENTURE

Located at Pioneer Airport, KidVenture encourages children and teens to explore several areas of aviation, including flying, air traffic control simulation, and building aircraft, through hands on activities, speakers, simulators and demonstrations.

INNOVATIONS

NATCA will assist the FAA with a NextGen display that explains to visitors the behind the scenes benefits of NextGen.

CAREER BOOTH

NATCA will have a presence in the Aviation Career tent, and our volunteers will be on hand to explain to visitors the career of air traffic control, and how to become an air traffic controller.

BRIEFINGS AND PRESENTATIONS

NATCA provides briefings and presentations several times throughout the event. These briefings are on subjects such as Pilot-Controller Communications, Aviation Weather, Emergencies, and other aviation subjects. Volunteers may be requested to assist or even lead these presentations.



If you have questions, please contact Kelly Richardson at krichardson@natcadc.org.

Volunteers must complete the volunteer information form at: [EAA's AirVenture Oshkosh 2018](#). The deadline for volunteering is March 16.



17th Biennial Convention 2018

Philadelphia locals look forward to welcoming NATCA brothers & sisters

Don't miss the chance to explore the perpendicular streets of the city that was our nation's birthplace & labor's heartbeat during the 17th Biennial Convention in Philadelphia, April 17-20. Important resource:

- [Convention page on the NATCA website](#)
- [Latest Update](#)

Proposed Convention Resolutions and Amendments

Proposals have been mailed to all members. Click [here](#) for an electronic version. The National Convention body will vote on all proposals that are in order and properly before the body.

If you have any questions please contact a [Constitution Committee](#) member. [Article XIV Section 1 of the NATCA Constitution](#) covers this subject.

Notice of Election & Election Rules for the 2018 NATCA National Election

A copy of the information below was mailed to every member's home address, in accordance with applicable law, during the first week of January 2018.



This is the Notice of Election and Election Rules for the election of the following officers of the National Air Traffic Controllers Association, AFL-CIO ("NATCA" or "Association"):

- NATCA President
- NATCA Executive Vice President
- Regional Vice President, NATCA Alaskan Region
- Regional Vice President, NATCA Central Region
- Regional Vice President, NATCA Eastern Region
- Regional Vice President, NATCA Great Lakes Region
- Regional Vice President, NATCA New England Region
- Regional Vice President, NATCA Northwest Mountain Region
- Regional Vice President, NATCA Southern Region
- Regional Vice President, NATCA Southwest Region
- Regional Vice President, NATCA Western Pacific Region
- Regional Vice President, NATCA Region X

The election shall be referred to as the "2018 NATCA National Election." In accordance with Article VII of the NATCA National Constitution, the NATCA National Election Committee ("NEC") has established rules, contained herein, for the 2018 NATCA National Election.

Section 1 - General Provisions

A. Elections shall be held by referendum and all balloting shall be conducted via secret ballot.

B. Write-in votes shall not be permitted.

C. Members shall have the option of voting electronically or by mail, unless the NEC determines that electronic balloting shall not be used.

D. Electronic balloting, if available, shall be conducted via the Internet. Members shall be required to register online to vote electronically. The NEC shall provide all members with information on how to register for electronic balloting.

E. With respect to mail-in ballots, the following procedures shall apply:

1. The official number assigned to each member shall be printed on the face of the corresponding official ballot return envelope.
2. A list of the names of all members, together with their corresponding official numbers, shall be made available the NEC for the purpose of checking the voting eligibility of the members whose ballots have been returned prior to the ballot count.
3. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary as set forth herein, all ballots shall be returned to a predetermined depository to ensure the secrecy of the ballots, and the ballots shall be held there until the time designated for the counting of such ballots.

F. Except as otherwise specifically provided herein, any protest or challenge regarding the conduct of the 2018 NATCA National Election shall be made in accordance with Article VII of the NATCA National Constitution.

G. Any further appeals must be filed with the Secretary of Labor, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. Section 7120 and applicable regulations.

H. With respect to campaigning for office in the 2018 NATCA National Election, candidates shall comply with the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 and any NATCA rules. Candidates may not seek or accept endorsements from individuals or entities outside of NATCA.

Section 2 - Nominations

A. All nominations shall be made in accordance with Article VII of the NATCA National Constitution.

B. Nominations shall be in writing and delivered via UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE CERTIFIED MAIL to: National Election Committee c/o NATCA General Counsel, 1325 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Nominations must be received at the Association Headquarters by 5:00 p.m. EDT on Friday, March 30, 2018.

C. To be eligible for candidacy, nominees must have been active NATCA members in good standing for at least one year prior to the close of the nominations period (March 30, 2018).

D. The Association Headquarters shall be charged with the safekeeping of all nominations and shall turn them over to the NEC.

Section 3 - Nomination Acceptances

A. Nominees shall not accept candidacy for more than one office.

B. Nomination acceptances shall be in writing and contain the following information:

1. The candidate's full name and, if desired, any special name to appear on the ballot;

2. The candidate's Facility, his/her home or mailing address, and the last four digits of his/her Social Security number;
3. The title of the office for which the candidate is accepting nomination; and
4. The following certification, completed, signed, and dated by the nominee:

"I hereby accept the nomination for the office of _____. I certify that I am not now, nor have been for the past 13 years, convicted of or served any part of a prison term resulting from conviction of robbery, bribery, extortion, embezzlement, grand larceny, burglary, arson, violation of narcotics laws, murder, rape, assault with intent to kill, assault which inflicts grievous bodily injury, or violation of Title II or III of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959, as amended, or conspiracy to commit any such crime."

C. Nomination acceptances must be returned to the National Election Committee, c/o the NATCA General Counsel at the Association Headquarters, 1325 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005. Nomination acceptances must be received at the Association Headquarters by 5:00 p.m. EDT on Monday, April 30, 2018. Nomination acceptances not received by this time and date shall be declared invalid.

D. The NEC shall determine whether each candidate has correctly submitted his/her nomination acceptance and whether the candidate possesses the necessary qualifications for the proposed office. The NEC shall prepare a report listing each candidate and the office for which he/she has accepted nomination. Each candidate shall be marked "qualified" or "disqualified" on the report, based on the findings of the NEC. If a candidate has been deemed "disqualified," the reason for disqualification shall be stated in the report. The report shall be signed by all five (5) members of the NEC and submitted to the NATCA National Executive Board.

E. The NEC shall notify any disqualified candidates, in writing and delivered by United States Postal Service certified mail, of the reason(s) for his/her disqualification. Disqualified candidates shall have the right to file a written appeal to the NATCA National Executive Board within ten (10) business days of the receipt of the disqualification notice. The NATCA National Executive Board shall review the appeal and issue a response within five (5) business days of receipt of the appeal.

F. Once the nomination acceptance period has closed, a candidate may not withdraw from the race.

Section 4 - Balloting Procedures

A. The NEC shall ensure the proper and timely preparation of ballots without partiality as to candidates. The names of the candidates for each separate office shall appear in alphabetical order based on the candidates' last names. Ballots shall contain voting instructions consistent with the provisions established herein.

B. The ballots prepared at the direction of the NEC shall be the only official ballots. No other ballots may be used. The NEC shall maintain a record of the ballots distributed.

C. Members shall return ballots via mail to a predetermined depository, which shall be paid for by NATCA, to ensure secrecy. No signature of the voter or other distinguishing mark may appear on the ballot. A signed or marked ballot shall automatically be ruled ineligible.

D. To have his or her ballot counted, a member must be in good standing as of fifteen (15) days immediately preceding the close of the balloting.

E. Ballots shall be distributed to the membership on Monday, June 25, 2018. Ballots must be completed electronically or, for mail-in ballots, received at the predetermined depository, by 11:59 p.m. EDT on Monday, July 30, 2018. Ballots not completed electronically or received in the depository by this time and date shall not be counted.

F. Each member shall be entitled to a duplicate ballot and receive same, provided that he/she notifies the NEC by Monday, July 23, 2018. Envelopes used for duplicate ballots shall be marked "Duplicate Ballot" and shall be a different color than the envelopes used for the original ballots. Duplicate ballots shall be counted unless the original and duplicate ballot mailed to a member are both cast, in which case only the duplicate ballot shall be counted.

G. If a member casts both an electronic ballot and a mail-in ballot, only the electronic ballot shall be counted.

H. The NEC shall supervise the conduct of the election and take the measures it deems necessary to ensure a fair and impartial election.

Section 5 - Ballot Collection and Tally Procedures

A. On the morning of Tuesday, July 31, 2018, a member of the NEC shall proceed to the depository and obtain all the ballots. Ballots shall be retained in the custody of the NEC until such time as they are checked and counted.

B. The NEC shall tally all ballots and prepare a report detailing the results of the election, including a complete account of all ballots and a reconciliation of the ballots with rosters and verification lists of the membership. The report shall clearly detail any discrepancies discovered and include recommendations for the treatment of such discrepancies.

C. The NEC shall commence the counting of the ballots on Tuesday, July 31, 2018 (the same day that the ballots are collected) and shall complete this work as quickly as possible. The report of the NEC shall be filed with the Association Headquarters no later than forty-eight (48) hours following the completion of the count.

Section 6 - Runoff Procedures

A. In the event of a runoff election, the NEC shall supervise the distribution of ballots. The ballots shall be distributed no later than sixteen (16) days after the NEC has ruled on challenges or protests of the election or, if there are no challenges or protests, within sixteen (16) days following the submission of the NEC's report.

B. Any runoff elections shall be conducted in accordance with Section 4, herein. Ballots shall be distributed to the membership and shall be due back to the predetermined depository within thirty (30) days of the date of distribution. In the event that the thirty-day deadline falls on a weekend or holiday, the next regular business day shall be designated as the deadline for the receipt of returned ballots. The NEC shall meet the following day to tabulate ballots and announce the results of the runoff election.

Section 7 - Installation of Officers

A. New officers shall take office on September 1, 2018. In the event of a runoff election, such officers shall take office thirty (30) days after the results of the runoff election are finalized.



NATCA Academy - 2018 Schedule

Representative Training 1 (RT1)	April 9-13	Las Vegas
Representative Training 1 (RT1)	Sept. 24-28	Las Vegas
Representative Training 1 (RT1)	Dec. 3-7	Las Vegas
Federal Contract Tower (FCT)	June 12-13	National HQ, D.C.
LEAP	Oct. 2018 (Dates TBA)	Airlie, Va.
Training Review Board (TRB)	April 24-26	Las Vegas
Training Review Board (TRB)	Sept. 11-13	Las Vegas
Legislative Activism (LAT)	Feb. 21-22	Las Vegas
Legislative Activism (LAT)	Sept. 11-12	Las Vegas
Adv. Legislative Activism (ALAT)	Nov. 27-29	National HQ, D.C.
Secretary/Treasurer (STT)	April 10-11	Las Vegas
Secretary/Treasurer (STT)	Sept. 11-12	Las Vegas

NATCA Academy Legislative Class Change

An Advanced Legislative Activism Training (ALAT) class has been added to the NATCA Academy Legislative Class schedule in 2018. The Basic Legislative Activism Training (LAT) class originally scheduled for Nov. 28-29, 2018 in Las Vegas, has been replaced with an ALAT class on Nov. 27-29, 2018 in Washington, D.C. at the NATCA National Office.

ALAT is an involved, 2 1/2-day course with guest speakers from the Office of Special Counsel, NATCA's Government Affairs Staff, and Special Counsel to NATCA's President.

NATCA Academy Courses are available for sign up on the [NATCA Membership Portal](#) (except for LEAP, which is by invitation only).

Once you have logged in, select "NATCA Academy" from the quick links. Then, select "2018 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.

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