



Thank You to Our NATCA in Washington Member Activists

We commend the NATCA member activists who traveled to our nation's capital this week for NATCA in Washington. Their commitment is vital to promoting safety and better working conditions through a collective NATCA voice.



PHOTO: NiW 2023 participants on the steps for the U.S. House of Representatives on the East Front of the U.S. Capitol

NATCA's leadership, legislative activists, and National Office Government Affairs Department staff work hard to foster good relationships with federally-elected officials – regardless of party affiliation – to promote our Union's advocacy priorities. For NiW this year, our Union has reached out to every one

of the 535 congressional offices to request in-person meetings with members of Congress and their staff. NATCA is proud to have established positive relationships with hundreds of members of Congress. That bipartisan group of representatives are what we call The NATCA Majority.

Read more about the 2023 NiW event [here](#).

EVP Andrew LeBovidge Address NiW Attendees



NATCA Executive Vice President Andrew LeBovidge took the stage during the NATCA in Washington (NiW) General Session on Wednesday. He thanked those in attendance for volunteering their time to attend the conference.

LeBovidge commended the 2023 NiW attendees for joining “a movement of brothers and sisters that has led the fight over many years to enact change on the political level that has improved the lives of each and every member of this great Union.” He encouraged them to harness the passion they experience at NiW and “let it fuel your efforts back at your facilities to inspire others to join our Union, become active NATCA member activists, and help lead the fight.”

Senator Warner Takes the Stage at NiW

On Wednesday morning, U.S. Senator Mark Warner of Virginia addressed NATCA in Washington attendees.

Warner has represented Virginia in the Senate since 2009. He is the Chairman of the Select Committee on Intelligence. He also serves on the Senate’s Finance Committee, the Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs Committee, where he is the Chair of the Subcommittee on National Security and International Trade and Finance, the Budget Committee, and the Rules Committee.

Prior to serving in the Senate, Warner was the Governor of Virginia from 2002 to 2006.

Sen. Warner is the definition of a NATCA champion—someone who understands our work, fights for our shared priorities, and doesn't back down.

He literally stood beside us during the 2018-2019 government shutdown, joining NATCA members at a press conference at DCA and calling on the Senate to vote to end the shutdown as soon as possible.



PHOTO (left to right): NiW 2023 participants from the Commonwealth of Virginia with Executive Vice President Andrew LeBovidge, Sen. Warner, and President Rich Santa.

He's authored several bills to provide backpay to federal employees and protect us from foreclosures, evictions, and loan defaults during shutdowns.

He consistently advocates for the rights, pay, and benefits of federal employees and our families, and has successfully fought against attempts by previous administrations to cut retirement and other benefits.

Sen. Warner also played a key role brokering the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, also known as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. This legislation, signed into law at the end of 2021, provided \$5 billion to upgrade FAA facilities

and equipment and an additional \$25 billion for airport improvements.

Suzanne Sullivan Leads Panel Discussion with Former U.S. Reps. Bill Schuster and Jerry Costello

On the second day of NATCA in Washington, Suzanne Sullivan was joined by former U.S. Reps. Bill Shuster (Pa., 9th) and Jerry Costello (Ill., 12th) on the NiW main stage for a panel discussion. They discussed aviation issues such as modernization and new entrants into the National Airspace System (NAS), FAA reauthorization, and current politics around the debt ceiling and appropriations.



PHOTO (left to right): Shuster, Costello, and Sullivan on stage during panel

Rep. Bill Shuster served in the House of Representatives from 2001 until 2019 and was the Chairman of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. Today, Chairman Shuster lobbies on the Hill for our Union to advocate for NATCA priorities and protect our members and profession.

Rep. Costello served in the House of Representatives from 1988 until 2013. During that time, he served on the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and was the Chairman of the Aviation Subcommittee. Costello is a longtime supporter and friend of NATCA, advocating for our Union when the FAA imposed work rules by introducing the FAA Fair Labor Management Dispute Resolution Act of 2006. His allyship was vital to getting NATCA to where it is today. Today, Rep. Costello lobbies on the Hill for our Union to advance NATCA's legislative priorities on the Hill.

Sullivan spent two decades in the federal government, serving as the senior counselor to FAA Jane F. Garvey, as the FAA assistant administrator for

government and industry affairs, as the deputy chief of staff at the U.S. Department of Transportation under Secretary Rodney E. Slater, and in several senior positions on the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Public Works and Transportation. Today, Sullivan also lobbies on the Hill on behalf of our Union.

First Timers at NATCA in Washington Come Together

First-time attendees at NATCA in Washington came together this morning to become more familiar with how Capitol Hill operates. The focus of this session is how to have an effective meeting.



PHOTO: First-time NiW participants

Experienced legislative activists National Legislative Committee (NLC) Southern Region Representative Jennifer Chhetri (Atlanta Center, ZTL), NLC Great Lakes Region Alternate Toby Hauck (Chicago Center, ZAU), NLC Great Lakes Region Representative Erin Phelps (Minneapolis Center, ZMP), and Eastern Region Representative David Romano (New York Center, ZNY) were on hand to conduct mock meetings and provide constructive feedback, so our activists make the most of their time with their members of Congress this week.

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