



NATCA President Nick Daniels Addresses Members at NATCA in Washington 2025

NATCA President Nick Daniels opened NATCA in Washington 2025 by delivering the State of the Union, reinforcing the critical role of legislative activism in protecting the essential American workers represented by our Union and securing our professions' future. He highlighted the successes of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024, which mandated maximum controller hiring and key training improvements, and emphasized the ongoing fight for recruitment, training, retention of existing controllers, and modernization.



With nearly 400 NATCA members on Capitol Hill this week, our Union is ensuring that lawmakers hear directly from the controllers and aviation safety professionals who make the National Airspace System the safest and most efficient in the world 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Stay engaged, stay informed, and follow #NATCAinWashington for updates on this week's advocacy efforts.

[NiW event webpage.](#)

Rep. Don Bacon Joins NiW, Standing Behind Aviation Professionals Nationwide

NATCA was honored to welcome Rep. Don Bacon (Neb.-2) to speak to our activists at NATCA in Washington 2025. A veteran, moderate, and strong advocate for

modernizing aviation technology, Bacon has been a consistent supporter of NATCA's legislative priorities and a champion for bipartisan solutions that enhance the safety and efficiency of the National Airspace System.

Bacon's commitment to aviation safety and labor-friendly policies has made him a valuable ally in Congress. He recognizes the importance of investing in technology, infrastructure, and the workforce that keeps our skies safe. NATCA looks forward to continuing our strong relationship with Rep. Bacon as we work together to strengthen the aviation industry.



Rep. Rick Larsen: A Driving Force for Aviation Safety and Modernization

NATCA was honored to welcome Rep. Rick Larsen (Wash.-2) to NATCA in Washington 2025. As the ranking member of the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, Larsen has been a steadfast advocate for strengthening the aviation system, securing bipartisan support for key legislation, including the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024.

Larsen's leadership has driven investments

in modernization, safety, and infrastructure, ensuring the aviation workforce has the resources needed to meet growing demands. Representing the Pacific Northwest — home to a thriving aerospace industry — he understands the importance of a strong, well-staffed National Airspace System. NATCA appreciates his continued partnership and dedication to the aviation professionals who keep our skies safe.





Rep. Pete Stauber Champions Aviation Safety at NiW

NATCA was pleased to welcome Rep. Pete Stauber (Minn.-8) to NATCA in Washington 2025, reinforcing the bipartisan commitment to strengthening the National Airspace System (NAS). Stauber has been a strong advocate for long-term FAA reauthorization and understands the urgent need to address the controller staffing crisis to ensure the safety and efficiency of the NAS.

As a supporter of aviation growth and modernization, Stauber has backed efforts to improve air traffic control infrastructure and integrate new technology. NATCA appreciates his leadership and looks forward to continued collaboration on solutions that benefit the aviation workforce and the flying public.





The National Legislative Committee: The Backbone of NATCA Advocacy

The National Legislative Committee (NLC) is at the heart of NATCA's grassroots activism, ensuring our Union has a powerful voice on Capitol Hill. Working alongside the staff in our Union's Government Affairs Department, the NLC, led by Chair David Skarphol and Vice Chair Allison Schwaegel, trains and equips members to be effective legislative advocates, strengthening NATCA's influence in Congress.



Through education, activism, and a nationwide network of legislative coordinators, the NLC helps members engage directly with lawmakers to fight for our professions. Their work ensures that every NATCA member has the tools to make an impact.

Honoring Legislative Excellence: The 2025 Recipients of the Trish Gilbert Legislative Activism Award

NATCA is proud to recognize retired Honolulu Control Facility (HCF) Jimmy Lake and Rosa Serai as the recipients of this year's Trish Gilbert Legislative Activism Award. This prestigious award honors members who have shown an unwavering commitment to legislative activism, following in the footsteps of Trish Gilbert, one of NATCA's most effective and inspiring advocates.



Since 2009, this award has celebrated those who go above and beyond to strengthen NATCA's voice on Capitol Hill. Jimmy and Rosa have demonstrated extraordinary dedication to our Union's advocacy efforts, ensuring that NATCA's priorities remain front and center with lawmakers.

Thank you, Jimmy and Rosa, for your passion, leadership, and commitment to fighting for the future of our profession. #NATCAinWashington

Honoring NATCA's 2024 Regional Legislative Award Winners

NATCA proudly recognizes the 2025 Regional Legislative Award winners, honoring members who have gone above and beyond in their dedication to legislative activism. Each year at NATCA in Washington, the National

Legislative Committee (NLC) spotlights a group of outstanding advocates for their commitment to strengthening congressional relationships, educating fellow members, and advancing NATCA's legislative priorities.

Selected by their Regional Vice Presidents, these activists have dedicated countless hours to ensuring NATCA's voice is heard where it matters most. Their work strengthens our Union and helps protect NATCA's members and the future of the National Airspace System.



This year's winners:

Alaskan Region: Jared Wall (Flight Services Station, FAI-FS2)
Central Region: James Heath (Kansas City Center, ZKC)
Eastern Region: Arianna Bocci (Washington Center, ZDC)
Great Lakes Region: Roman Klingshirn (Cleveland Center, ZOB), Shawn Hinnant (Sioux Falls ATCT, FSD)
New England Region: Bryan Loquet (Bangor ATCT, BGR)
Northwest Mountain Region: Kyle Hoover (Seattle TRACON, S46)
Region X: Karly Shaffer (Engineer/Eastern Region, EEA)
Southern Region: Daniel Garcia-Barbon (Miami Center, ZMA)
Southwest Region: Cesar Cordero (El Paso ATCT, ELP)
Western Pacific Region: Patricia Rodriguez (Oakland Center, ZOA)

Help Share How We're Building a Stronger Future for Our Union

As NATCA members engage with Congress this week, they are building the relationships that will strengthen the National Airspace System (NAS) and secure the future of our professions. We want to capture these moments of advocacy in action! Share your photos from congressional meetings and NiW events by emailing them to publicaffairs@natca.org and posting them on social media using #NATCAinWashington.

Don't forget to tag NATCA: @NATCA on Facebook and X and @NATCANational on Instagram. When you send your photos, please include your name, facility, and the names of those pictured so we can feature them

across NATCA's communication platforms.

Your voice, your action, and your engagement make a difference. Let's show the power of our Union in action!



And to our members not at the event, check out [the photo album](#) to see the power of our advocacy in action.

For more details about the 2025 NiW event, visit [the NiW webpage](#).

[Visit our Website](#)



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