



Member Update

NATCA Supports Secretary Sean Duffy's Plan to Modernize the Air Traffic Control System

NOTE: NATCA distributed this message as a press release today.

Today, Secretary of Transportation Sean Duffy announced the details about his visionary plan to modernize our nation's air traffic control system. The National Air Traffic Controllers Association (NATCA) strongly supports this comprehensive effort to fund and prioritize the replacement and repair of air traffic control facilities and modernize outdated technology.

"NATCA thanks Sec. Duffy for taking a proactive approach to addressing air traffic control modernization. NATCA fully supports this effort," said NATCA President Nick Daniels. "NATCA has advocated for the modernization of air traffic control systems and infrastructure for decades, and it is past time that it is addressed.

"NATCA is ready to continue working with Sec. Duffy, the Department of Transportation, and the Federal Aviation Administration to ensure that all modernization efforts include involvement from the National Airspace System's most important resource – the hardworking air traffic controllers and other aviation safety professionals who keep our skies safe, day in and day out. Their expertise will help guarantee that the state-of-the-art systems Sec. Duffy envisions work optimally," Daniels said.

NATCA also thanks U.S. House of Representatives Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Chairman Sam Graves for his leadership in proposing the inclusion of an air traffic control modernization provision in the budget reconciliation package, which will significantly improve the safety and efficiency of the National Airspace System for the flying public, users of the system, and the air traffic controllers and other aviation safety professionals who operate the system 24 hours-a-day, 365 days-a-year. This \$12.5 billion infusion will serve as a significant downpayment to modernize the system.

NATCA also thanks the Administration for submitting a budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2026 that includes increases for both air traffic controller hiring and training and includes the highest ever budget request for facilities and equipment to ensure that the FAA can meet its facilities and systems

maintenance requirements while it develops, tests, and implements the new air traffic control system.

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