



AIR LINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL

THE WORLD'S LARGEST PILOTS UNION • WWW.ALPA.ORG

1625 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20036 • 703-689-2270 • 888-FLY-ALPA

March 13, 2014

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the nearly 50,000 professional airline pilots represented by the Air Line Pilots Association, International (ALPA), I write in support of H.R. 4156, the Transparent Airfares Act of 2014.

The Transparent Airfares Act of 2014 seeks to restore the transparency of airline ticket advertisement. In January 2012, the Department of Transportation (DOT) introduced a regulation that prohibits airfare advertisements from highlighting the base cost of an airline ticket. The regulation instead mandated that the total cost of airfare, including government-imposed taxes and fees, be presented as a single price shown to the consumer. This misguided policy effectively hides the magnitude of government imposed taxes and fees from consumers, which typically constitute 21 percent of the total ticket cost.

The Transparent Airfares Act will restore transparency to air travel advertising by allowing airlines to separately declare the base airfare and additional government-imposed taxes and fees. In addition to providing consumers with greater information, the bill will remove the often misplaced blame airlines receive with regard to airfare increases. The legislation has been introduced by Transportation and Infrastructure Committee leaders Chairman Bill Shuster (R-PA), Ranking Member Nick J. Rahall, (D-WV), Aviation Subcommittee Chairman Frank LoBiondo (R-NJ), Aviation Subcommittee Ranking Member Rick Larsen (D-WA), and Senior Committee Members Peter DeFazio (D-OR) and Tom Graves (R-GA).

The Air Line Pilots Association, International strongly supports this move towards greater transparency in airline ticket advertisement. We urge you to add your name as a cosponsor of H.R. 4156.

Sincerely,

Lee Moak
President