



1101 King Street, Suite 500, Alexandria, VA 22314 USA
Phone: +1 703 684 0836 Fax: +1 703 342 4324
gbta.org

September 24, 2018

The Honorable Bill Shuster
Chairman,
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Peter A. DeFazio
Ranking Member,
Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
2164 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Shuster and Ranking Member DeFazio:

The Global Business Travel Association (GBTA) writes in support of legislation to authorize the Federal Aviation Administration through 2023, H.R. 302.

GBTA is the pre-eminent association representing over 9,000 members, including 38 U.S. chapters, across the globe. GBTA is the industry leader in education, research and events. Business travel is an economic driver. Businesses send employees on 40 million business trips within the United States and around the world – most of which involve air travel. In fact, according to the most recent GBTA research, U.S. companies spent over \$47.4 billion on air travel in 2016, comprising 18 percent of total travel spending.

This legislation provides needed long-term planning and execution with a five-year bill to reauthorize the programs of the Federal Aviation Administration. This continued investment in the nation's air traffic system, U.S. airports, and consumer protections are necessary to the long-term health of business travel and the economy. GBTA is relieved that there is no increase in the Passenger Facility Charge (PFC), as this tax on air travelers would have been felt by business and leisure passengers alike. However, business travelers understand the importance of striking a balance between the needs of improved passenger facilitation and infrastructure with increased costs. We look forward to providing input from the business travel community on this issue as further study is conducted into the impacts of a PFC increase.

GBTA is also very supportive of the efforts to reform and improve the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) PreCheck program. This language reconfirms the plan that only prescreened passengers should be using expedited screening lanes.

GBTA commends you for this bi-partisan effort and looks forward to its passage.

Sincerely,

Michael W. McCormick
Executive Director & COO
GBTA

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