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To : **House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure**
Jack Ruddy, Staff Director
Hunter Presti, Policy Director
Kathy Dedrick, Minority Staff Directory

Statement of Support for \$15 billion for technology, facilities and staffing

Our nation's aviation system - an essential component of our transportation infrastructure - is a major foundation of our economy, has national security implications and affects the daily lives of nearly every citizen. The backbone of the aviation infrastructure is a network of safety critical ground-based facilities and air traffic control systems that guide every aircraft in the sky. This critical infrastructure is very old and in dire need of replacement.

The 2024 FAA Reauthorization Act is a foundational piece of legislation that was remarkably clairvoyant in highlighting the urgent challenges we face today. Thales commends the Committee for their recognition of the funding issues that continue to affect air traffic staffing, infrastructure and technology. This initial proposed tranche of funding, along with the identified first set of priorities, are a much needed down payment on accelerating modernization. It is essential that, as a nation, we focus on restoring the infrastructure of the NAS to its proper state – reflective of what we all agree is required to remain the safest air space in the world.

Thales stands ready to leverage our 80+ years of delivering systems and solutions to FAA, as well as our global leadership in Air Traffic Management. We are ready to engage with Congress, DOT and FAA by offering our experience, knowledge and proven, state-of-the-art technology in support of the necessary steps to achieve a cost-effective and rapid ATC modernization, and to accelerate the transformation of the NAS into a system which will be the envy of the world.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Scruggs", with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Scruggs
VP Government Relations
Thales North America

