

May 7, 2024

The Honorable Maria Cantwell Chair, Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sam Graves Chair, Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure U.S. House of Representative Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tammy Duckworth Chair, Subcommittee on Aviation Safety, Operations & Innovation U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Garret Graves Chair, Subcommittee on Aviation U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Ted Cruz Ranking Member, Committee on Commerce, Science & Transportation U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Rick Larsen Ranking Member, Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jerry Moran Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Aviation Safety, Operations & Innovation U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Steve Cohen Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Aviation U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: ARSA Supports the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2024

Dear Chairs Cantwell, Graves, Duckworth, and Graves and Ranking Members Cruz, Larsen, Moran, and Cohen:

The Aeronautical Repair Station Association (ARSA), the trade association for the aviation maintenance industry, strongly supports the bipartisan Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reauthorization bill unveiled on April 29, 2024.

At a time when the national airspace system (NAS) and the FAA are under intense scrutiny, you have collectively crafted a forward-looking piece of legislation that promises to enhance safety by improving the agency's effectiveness, professionalism, transparency, and efficiency. The legislation makes significant investments in the aviation workforce that will help Americans from all backgrounds pursue fulfilling careers and ensure the industry and agency have the professional talent they need to be successful. The bill also makes investments to address current infrastructure needs and ensure the NAS has the physical capacity to support future growth.

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ARSA is particularly supportive of language to address long-standing concerns about access to critical maintenance data (Instructions for Continued Airworthiness), better align rules and guidance, encourage consistency in regulatory interpretation, reauthorize and expand workforce grant programs, support the transition of military technicians to civilian careers, explore opportunities for high school graduates who have successfully completed maintenance coursework to enter the industry, improve stakeholder participation in the rulemaking process, and improve FAA accountability through creation of the new position of assistant administrator for rulemaking and regulatory improvement.

ARSA urges all members of the House and Senate to support the bill. We look forward to its swift enactment and to working with the agency, the Department of Transportation, and Congress to support its implementation.

Sincerely,

Christian A. Klein Executive Vice President