

December 19, 2025

The Honorable Sam Graves, Chair
Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
United States House of Representatives
1135 Longworth Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen, Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
United State House of Representatives
2163 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair Graves and Ranking Member Larsen,

On behalf of the Port of Seattle and Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA), we are writing in strong support for H.R. 6086, the Aviation Funding Solvency Act. We applaud your bipartisan leadership in moving this bill forward to ensure that our nation's aviation system and those who rely upon it are never subjected to another government shutdown.

As one of the busiest airports in the country, SEA relies deeply on our federal partners to ensure safe, efficient, and reliable operations. Yet, when the federal government shuts down, thousands of federal aviation workers are forced to report without pay – including air traffic controllers, technicians, safety inspectors and certification personnel. During the most recent federal government shutdown, SEA partnered with our tenants, vendors and community members to provide meals and a food pantry to help airport federal employees support themselves and their families without paychecks, and we were deeply grateful that so many of them continued to show up throughout the entire period despite the incredible financial and emotional strain.

H.R. 6086 draws on monies already paid by aviation users to continue critical FAA functions. This bill will eliminate the additional strain on the U.S. aviation system that can build during government shutdowns by ensuring that air traffic controllers and other Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) professionals responsible for maintaining safety of the airspace will continue to get paid. These men and women play a critical role in keeping our skies safe and our economy moving. Their ability to do their jobs should not depend on Washington's gridlock.

Thank you again for your leadership, and please let us know how we can continue to support this legislation as it moves through Congress.

Sincerely,



Stephen P. Metruck
Executive Director
Port of Seattle



Arif Ghouse
Interim Aviation Managing Director
Port of Seattle

CC: U.S. Senator Patty Murray, U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell, U.S. Representative Adam Smith, U.S. Representative Pramila Jayapal, U.S. Representative Suzan DelBene