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The Honorable Sam Graves, Chairman Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

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

Dear Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Larsen:

As members of the Modern Skies Coalition, we urge all Members of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee (T&I) to support passage of H.R. 6086, the Aviation Funding Solvency Act that is being considered on December 18th. 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.

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. 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. 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. During the most recent shutdown, the FAA moved proactively to address increased safety risks. These risks would have never occurred absent a government shutdown that resulted in missed paychecks.

Travelers, shippers and other users of the system pay nearly \$24 billion in taxes and fees every year for aviation operations, including air traffic control services, safety and security, and they deserve uninterrupted delivery of those services.

Our Coalition supports passage of this legislation that preserves the safety and operational integrity of the aviation ecosystem by protecting federal aviation workers and infrastructure.

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There is no reason aviation should be subjected to shutdowns that result from Washington's inability to come to consensus on funding bills. Enough is enough. The time for this common sense and critical legislation is now.

Aeronautical Repair Station Association Affordable Skies

Airbus

Airline Passenger Experience Association Air Line Pilots Association, International

Air Medical Operators Association
Air Traffic Control Association

Aircraft Electronics Association

Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association

Airlines for America

Airports Council International – North America

Allied Pilots Association

Alpha Eta Rho

American Association of Airport Executives

American Institute of Aeronautics and

Astronautics

American Society of Travel Advisors

Association for Uncrewed Vehicle Systems

International

Association of Air Medical Services Association of Flight Attendants-CWA

Association of Professional Flight Attendants

Association of Value Airlines

Aviation Technical Education Council

Cargo Airline Association

Coalition of Airline Pilots Associations

Experimental Aircraft Association

GE Aerospace

General Aviation Manufacturers Association

Global Business Travel Association

International Aircraft Dealers Association International Air Transport Association International Brotherhood of Teamsters International Council of Air Shows International Flight Services Association

National Air Carrier Association

National Air Traffic Controllers Association National Air Transportation Association

National Association of State Aviation Officials

National Business Aviation Association NetJets Association of Shared Aircraft Pilots Professional Aviation Safety Specialists, AFL-CIO

RTCA

Regional Air Cargo Carriers Association Recreational Aviation Foundation

Regional Airline Association

Southwest Airlines Pilots Association

The Boeing Company

Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO Transport Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO

Travelers United

United States Parachute Association
United States Tour Operators Association

U.S. Contract Tower Association U.S. Helicopter Safety Team

U.S. Travel Association

Vertical Aviation International

Vertical Flight Society