

Brothers and Sisters:

On Thursday, June 22, the Senate Commerce Committee introduced the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2017. Although NATCA has met with the committee drafting the legislation, we did not see the final provisions of the bill until it was officially introduced. Unlike the House bill, the Senate legislation does not propose any structural reform of the FAA.

After reviewing the bill, we have a couple of concerns. We will focus on both issues with committee leadership, as well as with the Senate Commerce Committee during markup this Thursday. Committee markup is an important step in the process, where exact language of the legislation is discussed, amended, and acted upon. Our concerns surround language that could be harmful to the ATSA/ASA just culture and proposed language that will slow down the hiring process by adding yet another step.

Additionally, the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee will mark up its FAA bill tomorrow. We are monitoring every amendment and subsequent developments to ensure our core principles are met.

We will update you after the markups are completed. After that, we will post a frequently asked questions section on the website and any additional questions can be submitted to faabill@natca.net.

In solidarity,

The NATCA National Executive Board