August 16, 2019

Doug Parker  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Airlines Group  
4333 Amon Carter Blvd.  
Fort Worth, TX 76155-2605

John Samuelsen  
President  
Transport Workers Union of America  
501 3rd Street, NW, 9th Floor  
Washington, DC 20001

Robert Martinez, Jr.  
International President  
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers  
9000 Machinists Place  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772-2687

Dear Mr. Parker, President Samuelsen, and President Martinez:

As members of Congress representing the communities in the New York metropolitan area, we are committed to ensuring that our constituents continue to have opportunities to earn a living and raise their families in dignity and security. We hope that your organizations work together in good faith to come to an agreement that continues to grow American’s workforce in the U.S.

American Airlines currently employs more than 2,000 aircraft mechanics, technicians, fleet service personnel, and other ground-based crews at LaGuardia, John F. Kennedy, and Newark Liberty airports represented by the Transportation Workers Union of America (TWU) and the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM). These positions are critical for air travel safety and for American Airlines’ efficient operation in the Greater New York Metropolitan Area. These workers have good-paying, middle-class jobs and help generate millions of dollars of economic activity across the northeast. Your organizations have played an integral role in our region for decades and have provided many of our constituents with living wages even as the cost of living in our area has greatly increased. We want to ensure you continue to be an integral part of our region’s workforce and economy.

Aircraft maintenance and repair is an essential component of airline safety. Congress has mandated that all maintenance work be held to the high standard set forth by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). However, there have been several instances in which foreign repair facilities have failed to meet this standard in key areas of safety and security, particularly as pertains to drug and alcohol testing and security background checks. We hope any current, overseas employees who have an impact on the safe operation of flights are held to the same high standards as those here at home, while continuing to have a qualified, domestic workforce. We would like to know how your organizations will ensure these two important goals are met.
It is important to us that these American jobs remain in the communities we serve. We again ask that your organizations work together in good faith to come to an agreement that maintains these good American jobs, and continue to benefit the New York area, while ensuring American safety standards are applied universally. We thank you for your attention to this matter and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

ADRIANO ESPAILLAT
Member of Congress

NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ
Member of Congress

PETER T. KING
Member of Congress

DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.
Member of Congress

MAX ROSE
Member of Congress

NITA M. LOWEY
Member of Congress

BILL PASCRELL, JR.
Member of Congress

BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN
Member of Congress

JERROLD NADLER
Member of Congress

LEE M. ZELDIN
Member of Congress

THOMAS R. SUOZZI
Member of Congress

ELIOT L. ENGEL
Member of Congress