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February 2, 2012

Dear Representative,

I'm writing today to clearly state the Transport Workers Union's stance on the FAA Reauthorization bill. As I stated, "we can live with it." TWU has long maintained that labor provisions do not belong in this bill, be it the yes/no ballot or any other changes to the Railway Labor Act. Unfortunately, our friends in Congress did not get the message! We now find ourselves facing a so-called "compromise" that changes NMB election procedures, in exchange for passage of a multi-year authorization after 23 exhausting extensions and one very painful FAA shutdown.

We are extremely disappointed that this "compromise" was reached without the input of any of the organizations or workers who will be affected, TWU included. We have made this point abundantly clear to the individuals responsible for the decision as well. Ultimately, we can live with a higher showing of interest— though it is unclear how this, and the change to the run-off procedures, will pertain to merger proceedings. Additionally, we view the mandate for GAO to regularly review the NMB as just another instance of political micromanaging of a well-regarded agency. Congress would be better served by investigating the flagrant violations of labor law that employers make during organizing campaigns.

At the end of the day TWU supports long-term funding for the FAA and enacting numerous safety improvements— including, but not limited to an annual review of overseas repair stations, stronger drug and alcohol testing of foreign operatives, and a proactive approach to finally extending basic safety and health protections to flight attendants. We do urge, however, that you do all within your powers to send this bill back to the Conference Committee. Specifically, we seek clarification on the merger scenarios referenced above and codification of the yes/no ballot.

If you have further questions, please contact Portia White, Director of Legislative and Political Affairs, at [pwhite@twu.org](mailto:pwhite@twu.org) or (202) 719-3903.

Sincerely,

James C. Little  
International President

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OPEIU-153