



AIR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION



SUPPORT THE SHUSTER AMENDMENT (AMENDMENT #6) TO THE FAA REAUTHORIZATION BILL (H.R. 658)

The undersigned organizations urge you to support the Shuster Amendment (Amendment #6) to the House Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization and Reform Act of 2011 (H.R. 658). This amendment will significantly improve the FAA regulatory process by requiring the Agency to recognize that the United States aviation industry is composed of a variety of different segments with different operating characteristics and by directing that the FAA tailor its regulations to address the unique characteristics of each industry segment. The Amendment also requires the FAA to abide by certain regulatory principles, including the performance of a cost/benefit study (with any subsequent regulations issued by the FAA based on a finding that the costs are justified by the benefits).

Today’s U.S. aviation industry is a diverse group of companies with different business models including, but not limited to, general aviation, large scheduled passenger carriers, members of the all-cargo industry and companies operating non-scheduled service for both civilian and military clients. Recognizing this diversity, Amendment #6 is simply a codification of the 2009 statement of FAA Administrator Randy Babbitt that “In rulemaking, not only does one size not fit all, but it is unsafe to think that it can.”

In addition, the second section of Amendment #6 requires the FAA to abide by certain regulatory principles that will help to ensure that any regulations proposed are necessary and justifiable and are based on the best available information.

Finally, it is important to point out that Amendment #6 is applicable solely to rulemaking initiatives of the Federal Aviation Administration and that the Amendment is designed solely to improve FAA regulatory processes. It does **not** require the Agency to take any specific action with respect to any specific rulemaking. The Agency would still be free to issue any regulation it finds is necessary to protect the safety and security of aviation activities – provided that the procedures set forth in the Amendment are followed.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

**Air Carrier Association of America
Air Transport Association
Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
Cargo Airline Association
International Air Transport Association**

**National Air Transport Association
National Air Carrier Association
National Business Aviation Association
The International Air Cargo Association
U.S. Chamber of Commerce**