



## FAA REAUTHORIZATION BILL (HR 658)

### *Oppose the DeFazio Amendment*

We support strong security at both foreign and domestic repair stations. The Congress and industry have pushed the Department of Homeland Security to develop rulemaking to address repair station security. We expect this rulemaking to be final this summer.

The TSA rulemaking is a comprehensive, risk-based approach to repair station security. The rule will address the following areas:

- 1) codify TSA's inspection authority and give TSA and DHS broad authority over inspecting repair stations;
- 2) require foreign and domestic repair stations to carry out a standard security program to safeguard the security of repair stations;
- 3) require stations to demonstrate measures that address access control, security awareness training, and a contingency plan and;
- 4) designate a security coordinator and consider employee background information and;
- 5) mandate each repair station to comply with security directives issued by TSA.

The DeFazio amendment seeks to address only one element of this comprehensive approach to repair station security dealing with employee information. The amendment, if enacted, will likely delay the publication of a Homeland Security rule dealing with repair station security. It will simply cause confusion by giving FAA jurisdiction over what is now a security function controlled by TSA. The amendment will require the rulemaking to undergo further review and changes especially since it will confuse FAA and TSA jurisdiction over security matters. It will require FAA to expend scarce resources on a matter that is already being dealt with comprehensively by the DHS rulemaking.

The amendment presents another regulatory burden without a demonstrated benefit. Despite extensive reviews of repair station safety and security, we know of no Inspector General recommendation for criminal background checks for repair station employees.

Finally, the amendment imposes a new requirement that could hinder the implementation of an important bilateral agreement between the US and EU. This agreement is critical for promoting aviation safety and protecting jobs in the United States.

***It is respectfully requested that the DeFazio Amendment be opposed during floor deliberation of the FAA Authorization***