

April 29, 2014

The Honorable John D. "Jay" Rockefeller IV
Chairman
U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce,
Science, and Transportation
254 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Thune
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce,
Science, and Transportation
560 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Rockefeller and Ranking Member Thune:

Together our associations proudly represent the strength of the domestic aviation, aerospace, and travel industry, which combined contribute billions of dollars to the U.S. economy every year and maintain thousands of high-tech jobs in the United States. We write to express our strong support for S. 1893, the Transportation Security Acquisition Reform Act introduced by Senator Kelly Ayotte (R-NH) and S. 1804, the Aviation Security Stakeholder Participation Act introduced by Senator Jon Tester (D-MT). House versions (H.R. 2719 and H.R. 1204) of these two bills passed the House of Representatives with overwhelming bipartisan support on December 3, 2013, and have also been referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Both bills were developed with significant input from our industries and represent important progress toward streamlining the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) acquisition process and improving decision-making, by including industry stakeholders on issues affecting aviation security. These no cost, common sense bills would benefit the transportation industry by requiring TSA to conduct meaningful private sector engagement and coordination, strategic planning, and transparent technology procurements, which will save taxpayer dollars and strengthen security in the long term.

We appreciate your interest in these bills and all that you do to protect our critical transportation infrastructure. As associations concerned with improving aviation safety and security, we ask that you move S.1804/H.R. 1204 and S. 1893/H.R. 2719 through committee, for the Senate's prompt consideration and passage in order to send these critical bills to the President for his signature.

Sincerely,

Aeronautical Repair Station Association
Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
Airlines for America
Airports Council International - North America
American Association of Airport Executives
Cargo Airline Association
General Aviation Manufacturers Association
Helicopter Association International
International Air Transport Association
National Air Carrier Association

National Air Transportation Association
National Association of State Aviation Officials
National Business Aviation Association
NetJets Association of Shared Aircraft Pilots
Regional Airline Association
Security Industry Association
Security Manufacturers Coalition
Southwest Airlines Pilots Association
U.S. Travel Association