

April 30, 2024

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
Chairwoman
Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz
Ranking Member
Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: **The FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024**

Dear Chairwoman Cantwell, Ranking Member Cruz, Chairman Graves, Ranking Member Larsen:

The Consumer Technology Association (“CTA”) commends Congress on the bipartisan, bicameral FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 (“FAA Reauthorization Act”) and supports its prompt passage and enactment into law. The legislation will ensure aviation safety, improve aircraft accessibility, and promote innovation in key areas such as unmanned aircraft systems (“UAS” or “drones”) and advanced air mobility (“AAM”) operations.

CTA is North America’s largest technology trade association. Our members are the world’s leading innovators—from startups to global brands—helping support more than 18 million American jobs. CTA owns and produces CES®—the largest, most influential tech event on the planet. CTA educates U.S. policymakers to ensure the innovation economy is protected

from laws and regulations that delay, restrict, or ban the development of technologies in all consumer technology sectors.

As a champion of innovation, CTA is a long-time advocate of clear rules authorizing UAS operations, including AAM operations using electric vertical take-off and landing (“eVTOL”) aircraft, in a safe manner within the National Airspace System (“NAS”). CTA has been continually involved in the FAA rulemaking activities concerning the operation and certification of drones. We also are a partner with several other organizations and the FAA in the *Know Before You Fly* campaign, which educates prospective drone users about the safe and responsible operation of drones.

Against this background, CTA agrees that “the FAA needs strong and decisive direction from Congress to ensure America’s aviation system maintains its gold standard” and the FAA Reauthorization Act “provides critical safety enhancements, grows America’s aviation workforce, invests in infrastructure at airports of all sizes, sets clear priorities for advancing innovative aviation solutions, improves the flying public’s travel experience, and ensures a healthy general aviation sector for years to come.”¹

Based on the foregoing, CTA urges prompt passage and enactment of the FAA Reauthorization Act.

Sincerely,



Gary Shapiro
CEO

cc: Jami_Burgess@commerce.senate.gov
Ryan_Cannon@commerce.senate.gov
Leslie.Paker@mail.house.gov
Ryan.Lehman@mail.house.gov

¹ Press Release, House and Senate Committee Leaders Reach Agreement on Bicameral FAA Reauthorization (Apr. 29, 2024), <https://transportation.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=407408>.