



June 3, 2013

The Honorable Michael Huerta
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Administrator Huerta:

We are writing in support of the Human Intervention Motivation Study (HIMS) and Flight Attendant Drug and Alcohol Program (FADAP), critical health programs for professional airline pilots and flight attendants. As you know, HIMS/FADAP are federally-funded alcohol and drug assistance programs that coordinate the identification, assessment and medical re-certification of flight crews. They are highly successful collaborations between the FAA, air carriers and flight crew representatives. Unfortunately, these programs are threatened by recent impasses by Congress to pass transportation appropriations legislation.

The current and final HIMS contract expires July 26, 2013 and FADAP expires September 8, 2013. Because HIMS/FADAP are funded through Congressional appropriations and contracts for HIMS/FADAP are let by specific year, they were not funded in the continuing resolution for FY 2013. However, both the House and Senate included funding for HIMS/FADAP in their respective FY 2013 transportation appropriations bills. Clearly, it is Congress' intent for these programs to continue to provide their safety-critical functions.

We understand and appreciate that you are under significant budgetary constraints. However, as you adjust resources to carry out the Administration's mission to provide the safest aerospace system in the world, we respectfully urge you to keep in mind the critical safety net provided by HIMS and FADAP. To continue the HIMS program for another year will necessitate only \$315,000 in FAA resources. FADAP needs only \$399,320.

By any measure, these programs have been a resounding success. The long-term success rate for HIMS is 85 to 90 percent.

Funding HIMS/FADAP to bridge the unintended gap from the FY 2013 CR will allow for the continued administration of the current programs based on actual administrative costs – less than \$715,000. It will enable the programs to reach a wide audience and to train doctors and other professionals. The HIMS/FADAP programs are important safety tools for our aviation system. We urge you to provide appropriate funding to continue the critical work of these programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald Lee Moak". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'D' and 'M'.

Captain Lee Moak
President
Air Line Pilots Association, International

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Veda Shook". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'V' and 'S'.

Veda Shook
President
Association of Flight Attendants-CWA