

**Oral Testimony of Capt. Tim Canoll, President, Air Line Pilots Association, Int'l  
Before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure  
Subcommittee on Aviation**

“Commercial Space Transportation Regulatory Reform: Stakeholder Perspectives”  
Aviation Subcommittee Hearing  
June 26, 2018

*As Prepared for Delivery*

Thank you, Chairman LoBiondo, Ranking Member  
Larsen, Chairman Shuster, Ranking Member DeFazio,  
and the subcommittee for the opportunity to be  
here today. It's my privilege to represent ALPA's  
more than 60,000 pilots who fly for 34 U.S. and  
Canadian airlines.

Thanks to this subcommittee's leadership in encouraging collaboration among government, industry, and airspace users, the U.S. airline industry is the safest mode of transportation the world has ever known.

This safety record has helped make commercial aviation a significant economic driver in the United States. Safe flying equals a strong aviation industry and contributes to a solid economy.

Airline pilots share this subcommittee's commitment to safety. ALPA is the largest nongovernmental aviation safety organization in the world. We feel certain, and the facts show, that having at least *two* fully qualified, well-trained, and adequately rested pilots in every airliner cockpit has made flying safer.

ALPA believes strongly that the spirit of collaboration this subcommittee helped foster in the U.S. airline industry will also allow aviation and space transportation to succeed together.

**PAUSE**

The future growth of the aerospace industry—both aviation and commercial space transportation—relies on safe, dependable, and efficient access to the national airspace system, air traffic management, and ground infrastructure.

As the U.S. airline industry works to meet future passenger and shipper demand while spaceflight operations also increase, the aerospace industry must jointly create policies, regulations, and procedures to share resources efficiently, and most of all, *safely*.

We know the work to safely integrate commercial space transportation *must* succeed because spaceports are, or plan to be, located near some of this country's busiest airports and airspace.

For example, an FAA study of a spacecraft launch and reentry at Cape Canaveral in 2013 found that airline flights around Jacksonville and Miami Air Traffic Control Centers were forced to fly as many as 23 minutes longer than on days without launch activity.

Given the interest in increasing the number and scale of spaceflight launches, it's easy to extrapolate the tremendous effect that commercial space operations could have on the U.S. airline industry as well as on its passengers, cargo shippers, and workers, *if* integration isn't managed correctly.

**PAUSE**

ALPA has long embraced new technology and innovation. We've helped develop and implement many of the important safety systems on airliners flying today.

ALPA's experience with technology and operations in the national airspace makes it clear that a comprehensive plan is *essential* to safely and efficiently integrate commercial spaceflight and airline operations. Moreover, Congress must provide the FAA with adequate funding to develop and execute this plan.

While the FAA is currently prevented from enacting commercial space transportation regulations until 2023, there's no reason why the FAA and our industries can't get started *now* on a plan for safe integration.

For the moment, commercial space operations must continue to take place in segregated airspace until we know we can maintain a high level of safety for *all* users after the integration.



However, Congress can encourage the FAA to get started now on providing the more complex analysis, safety oversight, and air traffic control services that will be necessary for integration. Regulators can also act today to develop communication, navigation, and surveillance requirements. Regulations must ensure safety in space vehicle design and flight crew qualification, training, and certification.

All of this will require the FAA and *all* stakeholders involved in aviation and commercial space transportation to communicate and coordinate their efforts. ALPA pilots, who offer a deep bench of safety expertise, are ready to assist.

**PAUSE**

It's an exciting time to be part of the aerospace industry. In just a few years, passenger and cargo aircraft will share the national airspace with space tourists and UAS operators.

With this subcommittee's continued leadership,  
ALPA feels confident that the FAA and the aerospace  
industry can work together to achieve the high level  
of safety that Americans expect and demand from  
U.S. air transportation.

Thank you.