



AIR LINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION, INTERNATIONAL

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THE WORLD'S LARGEST PILOTS UNION | WWW.ALPA.ORG

February 9, 2021

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

Congratulations on your recent confirmation as Transportation Secretary. The Air Line Pilots Association, Int'l (ALPA), representing more than 59,000 professional airline pilots, is ready to assist the Department and its agencies in any way we can. We are confident that under your leadership, the Department will be successful in its endeavors to enhance safety and build our air transport system back better.

Let me also convey my sincere thanks to you for participating and sharing your thoughts during the listening session with aviation labor, which was hosted by the FAA on February 5. Your setting aside the time to participate in such a session so soon after your confirmation as Secretary demonstrates your dedication and commitment to including labor in making the Department's goals a success.

I would like to follow up on the perspective I shared regarding the potential implementation of COVID-19 testing of passengers in domestic airline operations. Please find attached a "discussion paper" developed by ALPA regarding this issue that expands on the thoughts that I shared. I hope you will find it useful, and I appreciate your pledge on behalf of the Administration to take a "common sense" approach if the Administration does choose to move forward on domestic passenger testing.

I would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you as soon as possible to discuss this and other priorities on which we hope to partner with the Department in the near term. These topics include advancing aviation priorities contained in the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018, promoting U.S. workers and U.S. aviation in the international marketplace, and increasing diversity and inclusion in the aviation workforce. I look forward to hearing from you.

Once again, congratulations on your appointment and confirmation.

Sincerely,

Captain Joseph G. DePete

President

Air Line Pilots Association, International