

SENIOR DEMOCRATIC WHIP



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COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
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Eddie Bernice Johnson
Congress of the United States
30th District, Texas

WWW.HOUSE.GOV/EBJOHNSON/
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DEMOCRATIC STEERING AND POLICY COMMITTEE

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS
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March 30, 2010

Mr. Gerard J. Arpey
Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer
AMR Corporation/American Airlines, Inc.
P.O. Box 619616
DFW Airport, TX 75261-9616
VIA Fax: (817) 931-2770


Dear Mr. Arpey:

It was recently brought to my attention that despite ongoing contract negotiations, the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) and American Airlines (AA) have made little progress in reaching an agreement.

The APFA has assured me that they do not want to exercise their right to stop work but that this threat looms larger because the negotiations with AA have been ongoing for nearly two years with no result. I'm certain that neither of us want to see a disruption of our national transportation system.

In light of our long and positive working relationship, I wanted to offer my assistance in this process, should there be anything I can do to help.

Sincerely,


Eddie Bernice Johnson
Member of Congress

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

20TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP

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Congress of the United States
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Washington, DC 20515-0920

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April 8, 2010

Mr. Gerard Arpey
CEO, American Airlines
P.O. Box 619616 MD 5621
DFW Airport, Texas 75261

Dear Mr. Arpey,

I write today on behalf of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants regarding their contract negotiations with American Airlines. It is my understanding that nearly two years of negotiations has resulted in very little progress on resolving this dispute. In particular, it was troubling to hear that when APFA's and American's negotiating teams spent eleven intense days in a lock-down at the bargaining table with a mediator from the National Mediation Board, American only offered further concessionary demands. The APFA has assured me that they do not want to exercise their right to stop work but that threat looms larger in light of this lack of progress. As a Member of Congress with a district in South Florida, and a frequent American Airlines flyer, it concerns me that the continuation of these stalled talks is threatening a disruption of our national aviation transportation system.

As you know, in 2003, the members of the APFA agreed to over \$360 million in annual concessions to prevent American from filing for bankruptcy. Yet now, in 2010, flight attendants are being paid 9 percent less than they were in 2003. Taking inflation into account, they have suffered a 26 percent reduction in their purchasing power. Not only has their standard of living been greatly reduced, but they are spending more time away from their homes and families. In 2014, the last year of American's proposed agreement, the real dollar value of the Flight Attendants' pay will have shrunk by 41.4 percent.

For this reason, I urge you to come to the bargaining table with a fair and equitable offer for the flight attendants. Additionally, I ask that you provide me with an update on the most recent status of negotiations. I make myself available to assist in this process in whatever way I may be helpful and look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress

JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY
9TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

HOUSE PERMANENT SELECT
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CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP

Congress of the United States
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Washington, DC 20515-1309

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820 DAVIS STREET, SUITE 105
EVANSTON, IL 60201
Telephone: 847-328-3409
Fax: 847-328-3425

April 20, 2010

Mr. Gerard Arpey
Chairman, President, and Chief Executive Officer
American Airlines
PO Box 619616
Dallas, TX 75261-9616

Re: Contract negotiations with the Association of Professional Flight Attendants

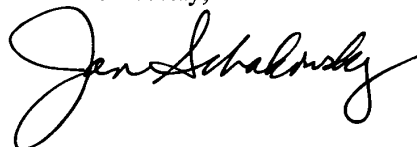
Dear Mr. Arpey:

I have been contacted by the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) at American Airlines concerning their contract negotiations. They have described making very little progress in this process although the two parties have been in negotiations for almost two years. I understand that the American and APFA negotiating teams recently spent eleven intense days in lock-down at the bargaining table with a mediator from the National Mediation Board. I understand that this resulted in continuing concessionary demands by American while APFA came forward with offers that would move the process forward towards reaching an agreement.

The APFA has assured me that they do not want to exercise their right to stop work but that threat looms larger in light of this lack of progress. A threat of disrupting our national transportation system is of concern to me. I understand that the members of the APFA gave over \$360 million in an annual concessions in 2003 to prevent American from filing bankruptcy. Since then, many flight attendants have faced severe financial difficulties and all flight attendants must work more hours to make ends meet. I have heard from flight attendants, including those who live in my district, that their standard of living has been greatly reduced but they must also be away more from their homes and families. In the meantime, American management has continued to take their bonuses.

I urge you to come to the bargaining table with a fair and equitable offer for the Flight attendants so that they can return to being part of our nation's middle class. I make myself available to assist in this process in whatever way I may be helpful and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

MEMBER:
COMMITTEE ON
WAYS AND MEANS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SECURITY
COMMITTEE ON
THE JUDICIARY
SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION,
CITIZENSHIP, REFUGEES, BORDER SECURITY,
AND INTERNATIONAL LAW
DEMOCRATIC STEERING AND
POLICY COMMITTEE

Linda T. Sánchez
39TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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www.lindasanchez.house.gov

April 22, 2010

Mr. Gerard Arpey
Chairman, CEO and President
American Airlines
4333 Amon Carter Blvd.
Fort Worth, Texas 76155

RE: Contact Negotiations with the Association of Professional Flight Attendants

Dear Mr. Arpey:

I write to share my concerns regarding the ongoing contract negotiations between American Airlines and the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA). I understand that the parties have made very little progress although you have been in negotiations for almost two years. I also understand that the American and APFA negotiating teams recently spent eleven intense days in lock-down at the bargaining table with a mediator from the National Mediation Board.

The threat of a disruption in our national transportation system is of concern to me, and that is why I urge you to reconsider some or all of your concession demands. The members of the APFA gave over \$340 million in annual concessions in 2003 to prevent American from filing bankruptcy. Since then, many flight attendants have faced severe financial difficulties and all flight attendants must work more hours to make ends meet. Not only has their standard of living been greatly reduced, but they have lost time from their homes and families. At the same time, American's management has continued to receive pay increases and bonuses.

For example, your salary as reported in the Washington Post has increased every year since 2005. Today, Forbes lists you as having received \$8.89 Million in 2009 as part of your total compensation package. There seems no doubt that without the pay-cuts all flight attendants took in 2003, American Airlines would have gone into bankruptcy. Has management already taken similar pay cuts or are front line employees the only ones being asked to sacrifice? For their service and loyalty to the company and to this nation, I believe it is only fair to negotiate a reasonable and equitable contract so that American's flight attendants can return to being part of our nation's middle class.

I make myself available to assist in this process in whatever way I may be helpful and look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions, please contact Celeste Drake at (202) 225 – 6676 or at Celeste.Drake@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Linda J. Sanchez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Linda Sánchez
Member of Congress

TIMOTHY H. BISHOP
1ST DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

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AND LABOR

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Congress of the United States
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FAX: (631) 696-4520

www.house.gov/timbishop

July 19, 2010

Mr. Gerard Arpey
Chairman, CEO and President
American Airlines
4333 Amon Carter Blvd.
Fort Worth, Texas 76155

Dear Mr. Arpey:

I write to share my concerns regarding the ongoing contract negotiations between American Airlines and the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA). Specifically, I am concerned that any disruption to our national transportation system would likely have far-reaching consequences to business and the traveling public.

While the two parties have been negotiating for nearly two years, it is my understanding that very little progress has been made thus far. I also understand that American Airlines and APFA negotiating teams recently spent eleven days in lock-down at the bargaining table with a mediator from the National Mediation Board with little progress gained toward a compromise.

In 2003, APFA members committed to over \$360 million in annual concessions to prevent American Airlines from filing bankruptcy. Since that time, many flight attendants have faced severe financial difficulties while working longer hours to make ends meet. Not only has the standard of living of flight attendants been diminished, but they now must be away from their homes and families for longer periods of time, while American Airlines' management continues to receive disproportionate increases in compensation.

It is with these points in mind that I ask that American Airlines return to the bargaining table with a fair and equitable offer for the flight attendants and that the remaining differences are resolved in a timely manner. Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,



Tim. Bishop
Member of Congress