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APFA

NEWS RELEASE

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Union President tells Congress “No more, ‘It’s my way or the runway’”

Eules, TX (September 8, 2011) – The Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) has joined the Association of Flight Attendants (AFA), the Allied Pilots Association (APA) and the Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA), in calling for a quick resolution to the FAA reauthorization battle going on in Congress. The current extension will expire on September 16th and without some agreement between the two chambers of Congress, the agency charged with maintaining the country’s aviation infrastructure will go into a partial shutdown for the second time in as many months.

“The Flight Attendants of American Airlines call on those lawmakers that are playing politics at the expense of our industry to pass a clean bill that guarantees a commitment to the nation’s aviation system,” said Laura Glading, APFA President. “At the very least, we demand a clean, long-term extension to the current authorization so that the FAA can get back to work without the Sword of Damocles hanging over the agency. What we will no longer tolerate is obstructionist politicians saying, ‘It’s my way or the runway.’”

A new FAA reauthorization bill is ideal because it will provide for improvements to the nation’s airports, grow the American economy, and deliver thousands of new jobs. “It’s ironic that Republicans are railing against so-called ‘job-killing rules and regulations’ yet they are happy to put thousands of existing jobs and thousands more potential jobs at risk in favor of petty politics,” concluded Glading.

About APFA - Founded in 1977, the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) is the largest independent Flight Attendant union in the nation. It represents more than 18,000 Flight Attendants at American Airlines. APFA Members live in almost every state of the nation and serve millions of Americans as they travel the nation and the world. In 2003, APFA played a major role in keeping American Airlines solvent and out of bankruptcy by giving back an employee bailout of \$340 million in annual salary and benefits, for a total of over \$2 billion and counting. Today, American Airlines is one of the nation’s leading air carriers and after three years and over 125 meetings APFA is still in frustrating and stalled contract negotiations with company management. Laura Glading is serving in her first four-year term as president of the union.

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