



Association of Professional Flight Attendants

Office of the National President

October 6, 2020

Dear Senator:

I am writing to you out of an increased sense of despair. Last week, I witnessed thousands of good American jobs disappear on October 1. On that date, American Airlines furloughed 19,000 employees, including 8,000 of my Flight Attendant colleagues. These workers are now separated from their source of income and healthcare. They are stressed, scared, and frustrated.

We need you to take action and extend the Payroll Support Program. I appreciate your continued support, but without immediate action, these jobs will not be saved. The airlines have agreed to reinstate these jobs if Congress acts soon. Every day we wait, it becomes more difficult and expensive for the airlines to bring their employees back to work.

I am glad that the communication line between Speaker Pelosi and Secretary Mnuchin is open again, and I am hopeful that the two are finding common ground. Without the Payroll Support Program, it will take many years, if not well over a decade, for aviation to achieve full recovery. We cannot allow the aviation industry to dig us deeper into an economic depression; the industry should be poised to lead the recovery.

A clean extension of the Payroll Support Program is a top priority in both chambers of Congress and both sides of the aisle. Thousands of jobs are on the line. Our deadline has passed, but it is not too late for Congress to save jobs through a comprehensive relief package that prevents further economic damage, helps struggling Americans, and of course, extends the Payroll Support Program for US aviation workers. In the absence of a comprehensive package, a standalone bill will be necessary.

The entire aviation community is standing together to urge you to pass a bill that will extend the Payroll Support Program. Our eyes are on you, and our fate is directly in your hands.

Sincerely,

Julie Hedrick
National President
Association of Professional Flight Attendants
Representing 27,000 Flight Attendants at American Airlines