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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4702

ARMED SERVICES

July 2, 2013

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave., S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

Congratulations on your confirmation as Secretary of Transportation. While I know there are many pressing issues in your new role, I ask that you give particular attention to approving final rules for commercial pilot qualification and training.

Congress enacted the Airline Safety and Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-216) with the expectation that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) would expeditiously comply with the bill's mandates for rulemaking to ensure that airline pilots have a proper level of experience and are qualified to work effectively as professional members of a well-functioning, highly-proficient crew. The crash of Colgan Air Flight 3407 near Buffalo, N.Y., in 2009 was a tragic indication of the need for updated requirements in these areas. I was pleased that the FAA published a notice of proposed rulemaking in response to these mandates early last year, a final rule satisfying these mandates will be overdue next month.

Secretary LaHood was a champion of a number of safety-related initiatives over the past four years. I hope that you will continue in that spirit, and that you will work towards the issuance of the final rule on airline pilot qualification and training as swiftly as possible. I look forward to working with you to protect the safety of the national aviation system.

Sincerely,



Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Aviation