

May 1, 2025

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure

The Honorable Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure

Chairman Graves and Ranking Member Larsen:

Affordable Skies Coalition fully endorses any laser-like focus on improving the efficiency and safety of our nation's Air Traffic Control (ATC) system.

The airline industry sells minutes saved to travelers, distinguishing itself from other modes of transportation by its speed and reliability. Any efficiencies gained in modernizing the ATC system immediately translate into minutes saved - minutes that reduce airline costs and, in turn, can be passed on to travelers through lower fares. These savings are especially critical to preserving the intent of airline deregulation: democratizing air travel and keeping it accessible to all.

Affordable Skies is a newly established consumer advocacy group focused on supporting policies that keep air travel safe and affordable. We believe that keeping input costs low for airlines, without compromising safety, is essential to ensuring that millions of Americans can continue to fly.

The airline industry finds itself at a critical juncture. Carriers are struggling to generate sufficient revenue to cover ever-increasing input and regulatory costs. The ATC system is foundational to unlocking cost savings industry-wide while enhancing, not marginalizing, safety.

We strongly support the Committee's reconciliation proposal and commend your leadership in prioritizing smart, efficient modernization of our aviation infrastructure.

Respectfully.

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