



Position Statement

Keep America Flying Act

In October of 2025, U.S. Senator Ted Cruz and U.S. Representative John James introduced the Keep America Flying Act in their respective houses of Congress. This is a bill that will help ensure that government shutdowns have a minimal effect on air travelers at the airport. The main focus is to ensure that Transportation Safety Administration employees (to include security screeners, baggage screeners, investigators, and other TSA personnel), Air Traffic Controllers, and other essential FAA employees are paid should any future government shutdowns occur.

Affordable Skies' Position

Affordable Skies strongly supports the goal of the Keep America Flying Act and similar initiatives that reduce or eliminate the negative impact of political disagreements in our government on the safety and flying experience of the public.

How the Keep America Flying Act Helps Air Travelers

- **Continued TSA Operations:** In the event of a government shutdown, TSA security screeners will continue to be paid for their work, eliminating last-minute call outs that reduce the number of available screening lines. Fully staffed lines means fewer delayed flights by airlines to allow for passengers held up in security to make it on board during shutdowns.
- **Continued FAA Employee Operations (Including ATC):** The bill ensures funding for FAA staff, especially Air Traffic Controllers, to ensure flights continue to move safely and smoothly during a government shutdown.
- **Uninterrupted Flying Experience:** By ensuring these employees are being paid, even during a shutdown, flyers can experience less shutdown-based interruptions when they fly.

Conclusion

Affordable Skies believes that affordability and accessibility go hand-in-hand. The Keep American Flying Act is a commonsense step toward ensuring safety and peace of mind for everyone navigating America's airports.

We urge Congress to move this important legislation forward without delay.