



**January 30, 2012** - We remain strongly committed to passage of a clean FAA Reauthorization bill. An aviation safety and security bill is no place to impose unrelated and controversial labor provisions that will ultimately serve to harm both airline and railroad workers. The proposed Railway Labor Act changes would drastically rewrite a statute that was crafted by labor-management cooperation and has not been changed for over 75 years without the agreement of both employer and employee representatives. Airline and rail workers would suffer significant losses as contracts are jettisoned, collective bargaining rights are cut and legal hurdles will be placed in the way of gaining a voice at work.

A rewrite of long standing labor law deserves proper and due consideration through the normal deliberative process. Acting otherwise directly conflicts with the non-partisan recommendations of the 1994 Report of the Dunlop Commission on the Future of Worker-Management Relations. This is particularly true of this law which was uniquely created through labor and management negotiations. Unilaterally changing that law without labor's input and without due deliberation threatens to unravel its carefully balanced goals of labor stability and uninterrupted commerce.

Rewarding the House Republican Leadership's desire to rewrite decades of long standing labor law in a flash by inserting an unrelated and controversial labor provision in a much needed aviation safety and security bill, without notice, hearing, or debate, sets an extremely dangerous precedent. We urge the Senate to delete the provisions of the bill that would amend the RLA and pass the clean FAA Reauthorization that all concerned recognize this country sorely needs and supports.

- American Train Dispatchers Association**
- Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen**
- Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees**
- Brotherhood of Railway Signalmen**
- International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers**
- International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers**
- National Conference of Firemen & Oilers**
- Rail Conference of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters**
- Sheet Metal Workers International Association**
- Transportation Communications Union-IAM**
- United Transportation Union**