



# Transportation Communications Union/IAM

International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers



God Bless America

**Robert A. Scardelletti, *National President***

**LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT**

**Ron Kloos, *National Vice President / National Legislative Director***

**Mark Taylor, *Asst. National Legislative Director***

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February 9, 2012

The Honorable Barack H. Obama  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Northwest  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President

On behalf of the Transportation Communications Union/IAM and the over 50,000 railroad members in both freight and passenger rail, as well as on various commuter lines throughout the United States, covered under the Railroad Labor Act, I am writing to request that when the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 reaches your desk, you veto this Bill.

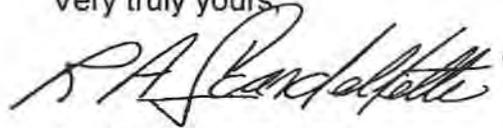
We remain strongly committed to the passage of a clean FAA Reauthorization bill. But an aviation safety and security bill is no place to impose unrelated and controversial labor provisions that will ultimately serve to harm both airline and railroad workers.

The Bill in its current form rewards 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 that sets an extremely dangerous precedent and only further emboldens them. And now, in a shortsighted desire to pass the FAA bill, Senate Democrats took the unprecedented step of changing the Railway Labor Act without consultation with rail labor or management.

These changes were clearly designed to punish the NMB for their courageous ruling last year to bring fairness to union representation elections by only considering actual votes cast. Ever since, the Republicans have declared war on the agency.

Mr. President, we urge you to veto the FAA reauthorization bill as it will cripple the rights of railroad and airline employees. We continue to support consideration of a clean FAA reauthorization bill without changes to the Railway Labor Act or to the National Mediation Board.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R.A. Scardelletti". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "A".

Robert A. Scardelletti  
National President

cc: Richard L. Trumka, President, AFL-CIO  
R. Thomas Buffenbarger, International President, IAM  
Sito Pantoja, General Vice President, IAM  
All Rail Chiefs