

July 24, 2013

Dear Members of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee,

We write in support of the Small Airplane Revitalization Act (S. 1072) introduced by Ms. Klobuchar and Ms. Murkowski. Additional cosponsors include Ms. Ayotte, Mr. Begich, Mr. Boozman, Mr. Franken, Ms. Heitkamp, Mr. Inhofe, Mr. Johanns, Mr. Moran, Mr. Risch, Mr. Roberts, Mr. Tester, and Mr. Udall of New Mexico. As you know, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a similar measure on July 16, 2013 by a vote of 411 to 0. We urge the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation to favorably report S. 1072 when it is considered during the July 30, 2013 markup.

S. 1072 directs the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to modernize and revamp the regulatory structure for small, certified aircraft - commonly referred to as Part 23 Aircraft - by December 31, 2015. This legislation will help industry and FAA develop and adopt more effective regulatory standards that will spur manufacturers' investment in new aircraft designs and help put critical lifesaving equipment into the existing fleet of airplanes. This will improve safety and also revitalize the lighter end of general aviation which has faced significant challenges in recent years.

S. 1072 is based on the recommendations of a recently completed FAA Aviation Rulemaking Committee (ARC). The ARC developed these recommendations over an eighteen month period with input from over 150 government and industry experts from around the world. The FAA and the general aviation community have identified implementation of these recommendations as key to improving general aviation safety.

The Small Airplane Revitalization Act has broad, bipartisan support and merits favorable consideration by the United States Senate Commerce Committee. We look forward to working with you to support passage of S. 1072. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) General Aviation Manufacturers Association (GAMA) Helicopter Association International (HAI) International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAMAW) National Air Transportation Association (NATA) National Business Aviation Association (NBAA)