



September 29, 2020

Dear Senator:

On behalf of airline workers across the entire airline industry, we implore Congress to take the immediate action necessary to extend the highly successful Payroll Support Program (PSP) and save our jobs. We strongly support the bipartisan negotiation to help all American workers and affected industries through the economic distress of pandemic. The deadline to save our jobs is tomorrow. **On September 30, 2020, the PSP's prohibition on furloughing employees expires and potentially one hundred thousand airline employees face unemployment beginning October 1.**

The expiration of PSP is an existential crisis for American aviation and our workforce. The jobs that will be lost beginning October 1 require advanced training, background checks, and recurrent certifications that, once lapsed, are not easily recoverable or financially viable to put back together. Mass layoffs will seriously impair access to passenger travel and cut off flights to communities that will rely on air travel for economic recovery. Action must be taken now to prevent the massive and irrevocable loss of employment in our sector. If a full COVID relief bill is not in place by tomorrow, then a stand-alone bill must be passed to extend PSP.

At present, there is a clear bipartisan and bicameral agreement in favor of extending this program to save our workers' livelihoods, as demonstrated through various letters and bill cosponsorships. As we approach a historically unprecedented airline employment cliff, Congress cannot allow a collective action problem in which politics or indecision prevents us from solving this eminently solvable crisis. No action is a decision in itself; it is a decision that will result in the destruction of your constituents' careers, lives, and communities, and will imperil an industry that has operated – by aviation workers – through the depths of this pandemic.

We appreciate your continued interest in helping preserve our industry and our jobs. As we face an imminent and legally certain employment cliff on October 1, 2020, it is vital that Congress work cooperatively to preserve jobs and maintain the industry's capacity to serve passengers, deliver cargo, and protect national security. Please pass an immediate extension of the PSP. There is no time left.

Sincerely,

Air Line Pilots Association, International  
Allied Pilots Association  
Association of Flight Attendants-CWA  
Association of Professional Flight Attendants  
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers  
International Brotherhood of Teamsters  
Southwest Airlines Pilots Association