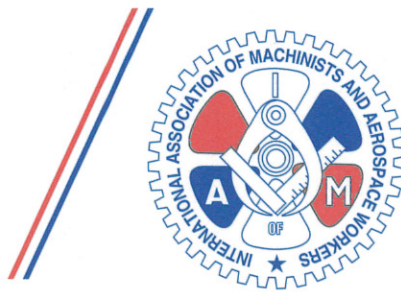


**International
Association of
Machinists and
Aerospace Workers**



9000 Machinists Place
Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20772-2687

Area Code 301
967-4500



OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

January 27, 2021

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
United States Senate
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader Schumer and Leader McConnell:

On behalf of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM), the largest aerospace manufacturing union in North America, I **strongly urge you to include the Aviation Manufacturing Jobs Protection Act of 2021 in any COVID-19 pandemic relief package to be considered by the Senate.** This legislation, led by Senator Maria Cantwell (D-WA) and Senator Jerry Moran (R-KS), would provide sorely needed relief to aerospace workers and help this critical workforce and supply chain weather the storm of this historic pandemic.

With global air travel stalled and travel booking forecast to remain at historic lows for some time, the domestic aerospace industry and the highly-skilled workforce on which it relies are facing dire economic consequence. The commercial and general aviation sectors provide for hundreds of thousands of high-skilled jobs, many of them our members' jobs, which are a proven gateway to the middle class. The U.S. aerospace manufacturing maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) industries contribute billions in annual economic activity. Aerospace is also one of the few industries where the United States enjoys a positive balance of trade. It is vitally important to our national security, our domestic supply chain and our role in the global economy that we support this indispensable industry and the workers which are its backbone.

The Aviation Manufacturing Jobs Protection Act would create a payroll support cost-sharing program for workers in the aerospace industry which has been hard hit by the global pandemic. Under the proposal, the federal government would pay up to 50 percent of the payroll costs for those aerospace industry workers most at risk of layoff or furlough due to the pandemic.

The aerospace manufacturing and MRO industries are without question indispensable to our nation's economic health, and assistance is needed to preserve the integrity of the industry and its highly-skilled workforce. **For all of these reasons, I urge you to include the Aviation Manufacturing Jobs Protection Act in the current COVID-19 pandemic relief package.** To further discuss this vitally important proposal please contact Ronce Almond in Senator Cantwell's office at [Ronce Almond@commerce.senate.gov](mailto:Ronce_Almond@commerce.senate.gov) or Lauren Bates in Senator Moran's office at [Lauren Bates@moran.senate.gov](mailto:Lauren_Bates@moran.senate.gov).

To more information, please contact IAM Legislative Director Hasan Solomon at 301-967-4575 or hsolomon@iamaw.org.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert Martinez, Jr." in a cursive style.

Robert Martinez, Jr.
International President