

LETTER TO SENATOR KELLY AYOTTE FROM
NEW HAMPSHIRE AVIATION BUSINESSES

December 3, 2015

The Honorable Kelly Ayotte
144 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Ayotte:

As members of the New Hampshire general aviation business community, we are strongly opposed to using the upcoming FAA reauthorization legislation to create a user-fee funded air traffic control corporation. Such a corporation, controlled by a board of industry insiders, will place our businesses and our employees in constant peril from efforts by major users of the ATC system to cost shift and deny general aviation access to airspace and critical airport development funds.

General aviation is an important sector of New Hampshire's economy. As the New Hampshire Department of Transportation noted in February 2015, our 25 public-use airports generate \$1.16 billion in annual economic benefits to the state and over 9,200 jobs. In addition to direct airport impacts, the state also concluded that New Hampshire companies manufacturing equipment, parts, and other commodities for aviation adds another one billion dollars of indirect economic output and over 3,600 additional New Hampshire jobs.

While we strongly agree that maintaining the status quo risks our nation's supremacy in aviation, we believe that radical changes to the FAA's management structure and funding poses much greater risks – to the safe and stable nature of the world's best air traffic control system and America's vibrant general aviation community.

The upcoming FAA reauthorization presents many opportunities to improve operations at the FAA and make it easier for aviation businesses to interact with the agency. However, separating air traffic control from the agency's regulatory functions risks undermining aviation safety, jobs, and investment in New Hampshire.

Thank you for your consideration.

Stephen Bourque
Nashua Airport Authority
Boire Field Airport
Granite State Airport Management Association

Greg Johnson
Charter Nation
Boire Field Airport

Beth Bendel
Monadnock Aviation, Inc.
Dillant-Hopkins Airport

Blake Fish
Quantem FBO Group
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Greg Lison
Infinity Aviation Services, LLC
Nashua Airport

Gary Arber
PlaneSense, Inc.
Portsmouth International Airport at Pease

Greg Mahanna
Armstrong Asset Management, Inc.
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Roy Creley
Lakes Region Environmental, Inc.
LR Fuel Systems

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