



PROFESSIONAL AVIATION SAFETY SPECIALISTS

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May 14, 2019

The Honorable Roger Wicker
Chairman, Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Wicker:

On behalf of the Professional Aviation Safety Specialists, AFL-CIO (PASS), I am writing in support of Steve Dickson as administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). PASS represents approximately 11,000 FAA employees, including employees in the Air Traffic Organization Technical Operations, Flight Standards, Flight Program Operations, Mission Support Services, Aircraft Certification and Civil Aviation Registry bargaining units.

As an executive with Delta Airlines, Mr. Dickson possesses an insider's knowledge of the FAA's Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen) and he would bring indispensable experience to the table as the employees represented by PASS continue to implement NextGen.

I have served side-by-side with Mr. Dickson on the agency's NextGen Advisory Committee and have seen how his experience within the aviation industry and his expertise as a pilot inform his thinking on NextGen and its importance to improving the safety and stability of the National Airspace System.

In addition, Mr. Dickson has in the past stated his opposition to privatizing the nation's air traffic control system, a risky proposal that has been put forth several times in the last few years but has wisely been left out of FAA funding bills by lawmakers. PASS firmly believes that privatizing the system could compromise the integrity and safety of our aviation system.

The work and challenges associated with modernizing the aviation system requires stable leadership so that FAA employees can remain focused on safety and modernization. At a time when the agency is under intense scrutiny, it is imperative that the FAA have steady leadership at its helm. Speaking for the dedicated federal employees PASS represents, I believe Mr. Dickson, with his years of professional experience, is that leader.

Sincerely,

Mike Perrone
National President

cc: The Honorable Ted Cruz, Chairman, Aviation and Space Subcommittee