



ASSOCIATION OF FLIGHT ATTENDANTS-CWA, AFL-CIO
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RE: Save Aviation Jobs Extend the CARES Act Payroll Support Program

The nearly 50,000 members of the Association of Flight Attendants-CWA, (AFA) are calling on Congress to extend the CARES Act Payroll Support Program (PSP). The current program, which allocated grants to commercial airlines and airline contractors for the exclusive purpose of keeping employees on payroll with wages and benefits, is set to expire on September 30, 2020. To date, PSP funding has kept hundreds of thousands of airline workers employed and covered under their healthcare plans during the pandemic. Without an extension of PSP funding, mass layoffs in the aviation industry are inevitable..

Congress passed the PSP in March and it has been an overwhelming success. It's kept workers connected to their jobs, healthcare, and out of the unemployment line. But although air travel is beginning to pick back up, bookings for travel will remain at historic lows at least through the end of 2020. We must extend the program or risk mass layoffs in October. Although the program doesn't expire until the end of September, layoff notices are beginning to be sent to workers. If the airlines don't have certainty around a PSP extension this month, we'll be sent home with pink slips.

The Association of Flight Attendants proposes that Congress pass a clean six-month extension of the PSP through March 31, similar to the extension Congress passed for the Payroll Protection Program. A PSP extension would allow the program to continue as intended under the current statute and would not require additional conditions, applications, or agreements by Treasury or the carriers. This is the simplest and fastest way to maintain Congress' historic commitment to keep aviation workers on the payroll--many of whom are on the frontlines of this deadly virus.

Payroll Support Program Extension Checklist:

- Clean Extension of PSP for six-months
- No involuntary furloughs throughout the remainder of the program (March 31)
- Keep us on payroll, connected to our healthcare, and out of the unemployment line

The PSP is a historic worker's first program: effective at saving jobs, transparent in application, and the most responsible use of public money in the midst of this crisis.

If you have any questions, please contact Stephen Schembs, Government Affairs Director,
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