



U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

James L. Oberstar
Chairman

Washington, DC 20515

John L. Mica
Ranking Republican Member

December 5, 2007

David Heysfeld, Chief of Staff
Ward W. McCarragher, Chief Counsel

James W. Coon II, Republican Chief of Staff

The Honorable James L. Oberstar, Chairman
Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

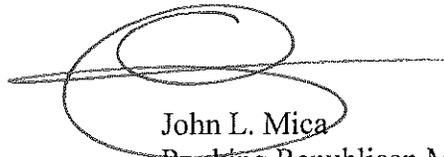
Dear Chairman Oberstar:

It is very clear that legislation to reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration will not be signed into law before the end of this year. Therefore, I strongly believe it is our obligation and this Committee's responsibility to see to it that our most experienced pilots are permitted to continue flying commercial aircraft.

You and I have both received bipartisan request letters from our colleagues urging passage of legislation to increase the current retirement age for thousands of commercial airline pilots across the country. Moreover, H.R. 1125, The Freedom to Fly Act has 313 bipartisan cosponsors, including many Members who serve on our Committee.

I look forward to working with you to move a compromised bill before Congress adjourns this session.

Sincerely,



John L. Mica
Ranking Republican Member