

**International  
Association of  
Machinists and  
Aerospace Workers**



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OFFICE OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

March 15, 2023

The Honorable Maria Cantwell  
Chair  
Committee on Commerce, Science and  
Transportation  
U.S. Senate  
511 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Commerce, Science and  
Transportation  
U.S. Senate  
512 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Cantwell and Ranking Member Cruz:

On behalf of the largest airline union in North America, proudly representing over 100,000 airline workers, we respectfully urge you to support the nomination of Phillip A. Washington for Administrator for the Federal Aviation Administration (“FAA”) when the Senate Commerce Committee considers his nomination. We strongly believe Mr. Washington has the requisite experience and skills to lead the FAA. We applaud President Biden for nominating Mr. Washington to this extremely important agency to our airline union membership.

As the current CEO of the Denver International Airport, Mr. Washington has obtained experience managing large, complex organizations that we believe is necessary to lead the FAA. Mr. Washington leads over 35,000 employees, serves 70 million passengers per year, and oversees a \$1.2 billion operating budget. In addition, at Denver Regional Transit, he oversaw 3,000 employees, moved 49 million people safely each year. At LA Metro, he oversaw 10,000 employees, safely moved over 255 million passengers each year with a \$9 billion operating budget.

We also believe Mr. Washington’s 24 year career in the U.S. Army should be viewed as an asset to the FAA. He retired as Command Sergeant Major, the highest ranking a non-commissioned service-member can achieve, and also received the prestigious Defense Superior Service Medal. His distinguished military service brings added value to the FAA just as the thousands of workers in the airline industry with similar backgrounds.

For the above reasons, the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers are very proud to endorse Mr. Washington’s nomination.

Sincerely,

Robert Martinez, Jr.  
IAM International President