

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 1, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590-0001

Dear Secretary Foxx:

We write today to express our concerns about and ask that you deny Norwegian Air International Limited's (NAI) pending application for a Foreign Air Carrier Permit with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

Our concern is that NAI's recently granted Air Operator Certificate (AOC) from Ireland will put it at a competitive advantage over U.S. airlines if the application for a U.S. Foreign Air Carrier Permit is approved, thereby threatening U.S. airline jobs at a time when our economy is still weak. With far more lenient labor standards than Norway and many other European countries, the Irish AOC will allow NAI to acquire pilots from Singapore on an individual contract basis and those pilots will be covered by Singapore's labor laws, which are significantly less strict than those in the European Union or the United States.

In addition, we believe that approval of NAI's Foreign Air Carrier Permit by DOT would be in direct violation of the U.S.-European Union Air Transport Agreement. Article 17 of the agreement states: "The opportunities created by the Agreement are not intended to undermine labour standards or the labour-related rights and principles contained in the Parties' respective laws." As such, we not only are concerned that approval of NAI's application will put NAI at a competitive advantage over U.S. airlines by allowing them to take advantage of the low wages of contract pilots from Singapore, but also that approval of their application will send a signal to other airlines that such actions are permissible under the U.S.-E.U. Air Transport Agreement, causing them to follow suit.

In Georgia, this is an issue that is especially close to us. The airline industry is a leading economic engine in our state, with Delta alone employing close to 30,000 people in Georgia and the overall aerospace industry contributing over \$20 billion to Georgia's economy. Given the competitive advantage NAI would have over U.S. airlines as well as the potentially dangerous precedent that could be set for airlines around the world, we ask that you consider our concerns and reject NAI's application for a Foreign Air Carrier Permit.

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Thank you for your attention to this matter and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,



ROB WOODALL
Member of Congress



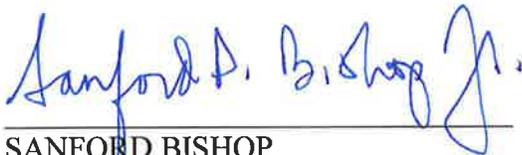
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