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*Dedicated to the Advancement of the International Helicopter Community*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 30, 2020

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## **Helicopter Association International Statement on FAA Approval of SFAR 118**

*Alexandria, Va. (April 30, 2020)* – Helicopter Association International (HAI) extends its deepest appreciation to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for approving Special Federal Aviation Regulation (SFAR) 118 that will relieve some of the compliance burden on pilots and companies during the global COVID-19 pandemic.

“We are truly grateful to the FAA staff for pushing this SFAR forward,” says James Viola, president and CEO of HAI. “This regulation will offer significant relief to many of our members who face looming deadlines for certifications and licenses. FAA Administrator Steve Dickson and his staff went to extraordinary lengths to quickly develop and approve this SFAR, enabling pilots and operators to remain in compliance with the Federal Aviation Regulations while maintaining the safety and efficiency of US airspace.”

The FAA has submitted the SFAR, [Relief for Certain Persons and Operations during the Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID19\) Outbreak](#), to the Federal Register for publication. SFARs pertaining to airspace are typically temporary rules to address temporary situations. They are generally not used to replace or enforce regulations that are to remain in effect for many years.

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*HAI is the professional trade association for the international helicopter industry. HAI members represent more than 3,000 aviation businesses and individuals who safely operate more than 4,500 helicopters approximately 2.3 million hours each year in more than 73 nations. HAI is dedicated to the promotion of the helicopter as a safe, effective method of commerce and to the advancement of the international helicopter community.*