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HAI join aviation associations in support of FAA Funding Stability Act

Alexandria, Virginia (March 12, 2019) — Helicopter Association International (HAI) is proud to join 40 aviation-related associations in supporting HR 1108, “The Aviation Funding Stability Act of 2019”, intended to protect the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) from future government shutdowns. Interested parties can read the associations’ letter of support [here](#).

Introduced by Rep. Peter DeFazio (D, Ore.-4th), chairman of the House Transportation Committee, this bill would allow the FAA to use aviation trust funds to remain open, even if politicians close the rest of the government.

“Words cannot express our relief that no significant aviation-related accident or event occurred during the recent partial government shutdown,” says Matt Zuccaro, president and CEO of HAI. “However, while the system remained safe, the inability to obtain needed permits and authorizations from the FAA caused financial harm to the helicopter industry and its operators. Vital preparations for the upcoming fire season were also delayed as the FAA could not issue needed certifications.

“Helicopters fly missions that provide benefit to the public good. When our ability to function is hampered, the negative impacts cascade down to affect the general public,” says Zuccaro.

Zuccaro also thanked Chairman DeFazio for his leadership in sponsoring a bill that protects the FAA and allows the agency to perform its work on behalf of all Americans. “The FAA provides vital services to the aviation industry and the nation. Most importantly, they make the skies safer for all who use our national airspace. We are grateful to Rep. DeFazio for recognizing the safety issue caused by not providing the FAA with stable funding and working to address it quickly.”

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HAI is the professional trade association for the international helicopter industry. HAI’s 18,000 members represent 1,800 aviation businesses, and 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.