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May 8, 2025

The Honorable Marco Rubio
U.S. Secretary Of State
Harry S Truman Building
2201 C Street, NW
Washington DC 20520

Esteemed Secretaries and Congressional Leaders on Aviation,

The full Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization meets once every three years; the next, this coming September, during which critical policy decisions will be made and direction will be given by the 193 Member States to the operating offices of the organization. Without prior appointment by President Trump of a Permanent U.S. Representative (Ambassador), the United States will have no formal representation or voting status in this Assembly. Competitor nations and outright adversaries of the United States will surely look to take advantage of such a situation to set global aviation rules and policy courses weighted heavily against American interests.

In this time of transition, it is essential that the President be provided the guidance of all relevant policy stakeholders and agencies to guide his priorities and inform his choices for critical appointments. At this moment, one such priority is the timely naming of Captain Jeffrey Anderson as U.S. Permanent Representative to ICAO. Another is the immediate lending of attention by the Secretaries of State and Transportation to the construction of a comprehensive U.S. team to join the new Ambassador at the next Assembly. Attached is a short, compelling white paper on the special need to attend to this appointment and project immediately.

A former U.S. Naval Aviator, 35-year airline pilot and member of the Airline Pilots Association, Captain Anderson understands the need for American leadership in developing and implementing effective aviation policies, as opposed to ceding that authority to other member states in the United Nations. The United States needs an ICAO Ambassador who can strongly represent our interest in this important arena and inform U.S. policy-makers as to the developments taking place in the international aviation space. Captain Anderson's experience as a Navy veteran and his work with the pilots association (where he served as a government affairs chair, including specific experience with ICAO) will help ensure that the next U.S. Ambassador to the International Civil Aviation Organization has the national defense and global economics experience necessary to effectively fight for America's interest and sovereignty concerns at this important moment.

Experienced Pilots Advancing Safety is representative of thousands of commercial airline pilots and professional stakeholders who recognize that decades of work in the field affords the clearest perspective on public aviation needs, challenges and solutions. We, the undersigned Directors of EPAS, our members and subject matter experts not only support the appointment of Captain Anderson as U.S. ICAO Representative, we stand ready to support your work on better aviation policy in whatever manner you may request.

Very respectfully:

B. Ellis - UAL (39 Years)	D. Colin - UAL (30 Years)	D. Sullivan - SWA (25 Years)
J. Riehl - DAL (37 Years)	J. Lewis - DAL (35 Years)	J. Seeley - JBU (35 Years)
J. Russell - UAL (38 Years)	M. Facey - DAL (28 Years)	M. Farkas - DAL (28 Years)
T. Nehls - DAL (38 Years)	K. Noel - UAL (24 Years)	

Experienced Pilots Advancing Safety Leadership Team

Cc:

Secretary of State, the Hon. Marco Rubio
Secretary of Transportation, the Hon. Sean Duffy
Sen. Ted Cruz, Chair, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation
Sen. Maria Cantwell, Ranking Member, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation
Sen. Jerry Moran, Chair, Senate Commerce Subcommittee on Aviation, Space and Innovation
Sen. Tammy Duckworth, Ranking Member, Senate Commerce Subcommittee on Aviation, Space and Innovation
Rep. Sam Graves, Chair, U.S. House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
Rep. Rick Larsen, Ranking Member, U.S. House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
Rep. Troy Nehls, Chair, U.S. House Subcommittee on Aviation
Rep. Steve Cohen, Ranking Member, U.S. House Subcommittee on Aviation