



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL ENGINEERS AFL-CIO & CLC

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October 24, 2023

Dear Senator,

As the executive officers of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE), a labor union representing upwards of 90,000 professional employees, including tens of thousands of members working in aircraft manufacturing and aerospace research and development, we urge you to confirm Michael G. Whitaker to serve as Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).

If confirmed, Mr. Whitaker would bring 30 years of experience in aviation to the FAA, including his prior service in the federal government as FAA Deputy Administrator and Chief NextGen Officer. He also brings a wealth of knowledge and understanding from his private sector career in the air transportation industry. Importantly, he understands that collaboration and partnership with all key stakeholders are necessary to continue modernizing our national air transportation system, addressing safety concerns, upholding the global standard of aviation safety, and ensuring that FAA policy supports workforce development and professionalism for all aspects of our aviation industry and air transportation system.

Mr. Whitaker is a highly qualified nominee who would be a critical asset for tackling the challenging issues that the FAA needs to address. A Senate-confirmed FAA Administrator is needed to convene stakeholders – including labor unions representing the airline industry workers, FAA aviation safety specialists and air traffic controllers, aircraft manufacturer workforce responsible for certification and aviation safety, and the researchers and workers who support the FAA projects and its mission – to identify the urgent solutions that the FAA will need to advance.

President Biden's nomination of Mr. Whitaker is a commitment to restoring leadership and stability to the FAA so that it may serve its commitment to public safety, accountability, and innovation. To that end, we request that you vote to confirm him.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions, please contact us directly or IFPTE Legislative Director Faraz Khan at 301-275-6038.

Sincerely,

Matthew S. Biggs
IFPTE President

Gay Henson
IFPTE Secretary-Treasurer