

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

Honorable Joshua Gotbaum
Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation
1200 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20005-4026

February 10, 2012

Dear Director Gotbaum:

We write as Members of Congress who support the survival of American Airlines as a strong, vigorous competitor in the domestic airline industry. On behalf of our constituents and the communities we represent, it is our hope that American Airlines is able to reemerge from its recently-announced bankruptcy as an economic force that continues to provide tens of thousands of jobs in communities across America while providing value to consumers by keeping the domestic airline industry competitive.

We understand that even after restructuring, American Airlines will still be providing over 70,000 jobs for American workers, including many of our constituents. While we regret the loss of every job that has been announced as part of this restructuring, we want to make it clear that these remaining jobs are critical to our districts – as is the service that American Airlines will continue to provide nationwide.

It has been reported that American Airlines has released a business plan outlining proposed company-wide reductions as well as the future investments needed to remain competitive and emerge successfully from Chapter 11. We understand that bankruptcy is a judicial process; but it is our hope that all interested parties – including the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) – share our support for a process whose end result is a reinvigorated American Airlines that employs as many American workers as possible.

We are also hopeful that as American Airlines works through this judicial process, they will be able to rely on consistency of the rule of law – in this case, the uniform application of bankruptcy laws that have allowed its competitors to restructure and subsequently remain competitive. While it is the court's responsibility to administer this process, we are concerned that imposing different standards for American Airlines than the ones applied recently to its competitors could put the company – and the hundreds of thousands of jobs that it and its investments support – at risk.

We recognize and appreciate your commitment to maintain the long-term fiscal integrity of the PBGC, and we share that objective. We are concerned, however, that some of the comments that have been made by PBGC representatives in the public domain are not consistent with preserving the integrity of the bankruptcy process. As the case moves forward, it is our hope that American Airlines can be

treated with due process to ensure fair treatment in a court of law, rather than have to contend with statements in the media.

We appreciate your vigilance in meeting your fiduciary responsibility to the PBGC, and look forward to working with you in any appropriate way to meet these goals, protect American workers, and keep the domestic airline industry strong and competitive for consumers.

Sincerely,

Buzz Jessing

Fred D Lucas

Eddie Berin Johnson

Alcyon Hartley

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Frederica Wilson

Steve Sealise

Sam Cole

Ed Pastor

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Sam Johnson

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John J. Jony

Ray S. Miller

Bill Cassidy

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Jack Wilson

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