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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3226

August 1, 2011

J. Randolph Babbitt
Administrator,
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Administrator Babbitt,

I am writing to you today, on the one-year anniversary of the passage of H.R. 5900 (PL 111-216), *The Airline Safety and Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2010*, to urge this complete law's swift and thorough implementation.

Nearly 30 months ago, 51 people perished when Continental Flight 3407, on its way from Newark International Airport to Buffalo, NY, crashed to the ground in Clarence Center, NY. In the wake of this horrible tragedy, the National Transportation Safety Board, the Families of Continental Flight 3407, and Congress worked together to pass the *Airline Safety and Federal Aviation Administration*, designed to improve aviation safety and prevent a future tragedies like this one from happening again.

While I commend the progress made by the FAA on this issue, specifically to establish a pilot records database, as well as provide for safety inspections of regional air carriers, there are many more vital reforms that still await implementation.

Furthermore, today, August 1st, marks the deadline mandated for a final flight and duty time rule, yet no final rule has been published. I am requesting a firm timetable during which we can expect to see the completion of this process. The families I represent, who have endured so much, deserve an answer and resolution to this process immediately. Until all rules have been published and each and every regulation is in place, American travelers will continue to face unnecessary potential risk when boarding an airplane.

Once again, I urge you to act quickly to finalize strong rules and achieve necessary reforms to ensure the highest level of aviation safety for our nation.

Sincerely,



Kathleen C. Hochul
Member of Congress