

The Honorable Congressman Bill Shuster
2079 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Senator John Thune
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Shuster and Chairman Thune:

We are writing to express our strong opposition to privatizing our air traffic control system. We do not believe that a private board effectively controlled by the airlines should be able to dictate who can fly where, when and for how much.

The United States has the largest, safest, most diverse system in the world. That is because the skies over the U.S. are a national asset and we are committed to ensuring that the future funding and subsequent design of the national air transportation system will benefit all Americans. There are only 500 or so cities in the United States that have any scheduled airline service. But there are over 5,000 small towns in the U.S. with airports that provide access to general aviation, including business aviation, which we use regularly. Access to airports, and to the nation's airspace, creates jobs, generates economic activity, and helps make America's aviation system work for all Americans. In the motor sports industry, this access is critical to our business model and any attempts to increase fees on general aviation users or restrict access to aviation facilities would have a severe impact on our industry.

Our industry sustains tens of thousands of jobs and generates billions of dollars in economic activity across the country. Privatizing our air traffic control system could jeopardize these jobs and economic activity by threatening access for general aviation to airports and airspace. This is in addition to the harm to the economy and national defense generated by the shut-down of the nation's aviation system in the event of collective bargaining disputes involving air traffic personnel.

Again, we are opposed to privatizing our air traffic control system and believe there are other ways to enhance our aviation system to ensure we continue to be a world leader in aviation.

Sincerely,

Rick Hendrick Hendrick Motorsports	Chip Ganassi Chip Ganassi Racing
Tim Cindric Penske Racing South	Joe Gibbs Joe Gibbs Racing
Torry Galida Richard Childress Racing	Brian Moffitt Richard Petty Motorsports

Kelley Earnhardt JR Motorsports	Joe Falk Circle Sport
Larry Rogers Germain Racing	Ron Devine BK Racing
Jeremy Lange Leavine Family Racing	Mike Helton National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing