



Aviation Safety

- **Support** continued investment in safety technologies like ADS-B Out and ACAS-X to enhance situational awareness and collision avoidance.
- **Urge** Congress and FAA to expedite ACAS-X implementation through timely guidance and funding, and emphasize collaboration with FAA facilities (e.g., SJU Combined Control) to improve safety and efficiency in rural areas.
- **Address** rural ATC communication gaps threaten consistent oversight and situational awareness, especially at lower altitudes.
- **Update** on Part 135 SMS implementation



Aviation Security

- **Reaffirm** post-9/11 reforms like DASSP continue to protect general and business aviation access.
- **Promote** RACCA members on cutting edge of new technologies in the areas of autonomy, hybrid electric small cargo aircraft and electric aircraft, all of which are in various stages of the U.S. Government certification.
- **Engage** with TSA to understand the security implications of these emerging technologies and to craft appropriate security programs.



Workforce Development

- **Inform** that workforce shortages persist across pilots, maintenance technicians, and air traffic controllers.
- **Raise** federal student loan caps and expand GI Bill eligibility to all Part 141 flight schools; Urge reform of DPE policies to include experienced Part 135 instructors and improve certification access.



Air Traffic Control (ATC) Reform *(RACCA aligned with industry on Modern Skies Coalition)*

- **Report** from operators that ATC infrastructure gaps exist, especially in Alaska and rural areas, including unreliable AWOS, RCOs, and GCOs.
- **Allocate** funds to the Don Young Alaska Aviation Safety Initiative (DYAASI) annually (\$25M) to improve safety, though full appropriation is still pending.
- **Eliminate** FAA delays in IAP design and approval; members urge use of approved third-party providers to cut costs and time.
- **Enable** direct ground-to-ground ATC communication to support completion of NAS Voice (VOIP).



Emerging Technologies & Advanced Aviation Entrants (AAE)

- **Improve** FAA efforts for cross-agency coordination for certifying new technologies, particularly for remotely piloted and autonomous aircraft.
- **Emphasize** the need for early collaboration among Aircraft Certification (AIR), Flight Standards (AFS), and the Air Traffic Organization (ATO) to streamline technology approvals.
- **Welcome** the Innovation Steering Committee and Airspace Modernization Office created in the FAA reauthorization and urge full implementation.
- **Encourage** activation and operationalization of the Unmanned and Autonomous Flight Advisory Committee, which remains authorized but not yet functional.



Tariffs/Trade Impacts on Regional Aviation and Supply Chains

- **Reinstate** 1979 Civil Aircraft exemption for aviation/aerospace and urge decision-makers to reconsider these tariffs and adopt trade policies that foster a competitive and sustainable domestic aviation industry.
- **Highlight** local economic impacts of tariffs on commercial aircraft and components, including the loss of maintenance, repair, and overhaul (MRO) and aircraft conversion contracts.
- **Underscore** that aircraft manufacturing is inherently global, with no aircraft being entirely U.S.-built due to international sourcing of components.
- **Reinforce** that global supply chains are critical to the U.S. industry and regional air cargo's ability to support local and international commerce and trade.



Connectivity

- **Enhance** connectivity by recognizing the vital role regional air cargo carriers play in sustaining dependable transportation routes that connect communities of all sizes to critical services, economic growth, and the broader national supply chain.
- **Expand** access and opportunity by enabling the flow of goods like medicine, mail, and e-commerce, regional cargo strengthens economic and social ties across the country.
- **Highlight** the critical role RACCA members serve as the connective thread between America's remote regions and the broader world, ensuring no community is left behind.