

September 25, 2020

Dear ARRA Members,

The House and Senate are not in session and remain at a stalemate over the amount of funding for COVID-19 relief and who gets included. Attention has turned to a Continuing Resolution to continue government funding for the new fiscal year beginning October 1, and the highly charged political debate over the appointment of a replacement for the Supreme Court seat held by the late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. The House and Senate are scheduled to have votes on September 29.

October 1 also looms large as the date when the airlines become free from their obligation to retain employees under the CARES Act assistance they received and are expected to follow through on their threat to layoff massive numbers of employees, including pilots. The airlines and their unions have been lobbying Congress hard for additional relief, and a number of key legislators are pressing the House and Senate leadership to provide emergency relief to the airlines. It is unclear whether such relief will materialize and whether the \$13.5 billion ARRA and airports are seeking would be included along with any airline relief.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) told Democrats in a 'Dear Colleague' letter that she is still working to reach a bipartisan agreement on COVID-19 relief. The letter also included a warning to a small group of House moderates who are looking at signing on to a Republican discharge petition to force a vote on small business loans. House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) also dismissed the discharge petition and said that he is hopeful that a deal will reach the floor next week.

Speaker Pelosi has directed her committee chairs to draft a new COVID-19 relief package that may be more focused and targeted than the HEROES Act. The package is expected to have a topline of around \$2 trillion and is meant to serve as the new Democratic offer for negotiations with the Administration. The House may vote on the package as soon as next week, but the vote is expected to be along party lines. The new package is expected to contain airline relief funding and possible funding for other elements of the aviation industry. Although Speaker Pelosi and Treasury Secretary Mnuchin have not been able to reach agreement on a new package, there is some hope that negotiations will resume and produce a compromise relief measure.

REMINDER: Now is a critical time to CONTACT YOUR SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES AGAIN TO URGE THEM TO INCLUDE AT LEAST \$13.5B for airport concessionaires and airports--\$3.5B dedicated to for MAG/rent relief for concessionaires.

Attached are the talking points and sample letter to Congress we sent previously. Please utilize the attached letter and talking points as you engage with your respective senators and

representatives. It's important that you customize the letter to reflect your company's situation and need for immediate assistance and relief. A quick phone call to your legislators or their staff will also be effective and helpful.

Also attached is the joint letter sent to House and Senate leaders sent by ARRA-AMAC-ACI-NA-AAAE and the airport concessions coalition you previously received, for your reference and use. These materials are also posted on the ARRA website—www.arra-airports.com.

It's especially important to CONTACT HOUSE MEMBERS NOW. House Speaker Pelosi is trying to negotiate a new relief package that is expected to include airlines, but may not include airports or concessionaires...unless we convince them that concessionaires and airports MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE NEW BILL.

Please urge your legislators to contact the House and Senate leaders. House staffers are working over the weekend in preparation for a possible bill and vote next week. In the House especially, they should talk to Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-OR), Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD), Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Chair Peter DeFazio (D-OR), and Aviation Subcommittee Rep. Rick Larsen (D-WA).

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please let me know. Any feedback you receive from your Senators or Representative's or their staff is very helpful.

House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Hold Hearing on Federal Department of Transportation Disadvantaged Enterprise (DBE) Program

The House T&I Committee held a hearing on the DBE program on Wed., September 23, the first hearing held on the program in 11 years. Past Chairman Farad Ali testified for AMAC. Attached to this email is a summary of the hearing and witness statements. Several legislators expressed support for the DBE and ACDBE programs, and endorsed the need for COVID-19 relief for airport concessionaires. The hearing, witness and testimony can be viewed on the committee's website.

<https://transportation.house.gov/committee-activity/hearings/driving-equity-the-us-department-of-transportations-disadvantaged-business-enterprise-program>

ARRA will submit a statement in support of the DBE and ACDBE programs and their continuation, and emphasize that the pandemic threatens the future of the ACDBE program and the survival of concessionaires, and urge immediate COVID-19 relief.

House Ways & Means Committee Hearing on Impact of COVID-19 on Restaurants

A hearing on the impact of COVID-19 on restaurants and restaurant workers was held today by the Select Revenue Measures Subcommittee of the House Ways & Means Committee. Witnesses included various restaurateurs, the Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer and the National Restaurant Association. The committee leaders and witnesses highlighting the devastating impact of COVID-19, how restaurants and their workers are suffering, and the need for federal relief and

assistance through the employee retention tax credit being considered by the committee, the Restaurant Recovery Act sponsored by Commerce Committee Chairman Roger Wicker (D-MS), the Payroll Protection Program and other measures.

Attached to this email is a summary of the hearing and witnesses.

ARRA will submit a statement for the record in behalf of airport concessionaires. The hearing can be viewed on the Committee's website.

Please keep up the effort and contact your legislators.

Best wishes,



Rob Wigington | Executive Director
Airport Restaurant & Retail Association
Mobile: (615) 906-6632
Email: rob@arra-airports.com

www.arra-airports.com