

The Fight for 10 and the FAA Reauthorization Act

The House version of the FAA Reauthorization Bill (H.R. 2997 The 21st Century Aviation Innovation, Reform, and Reauthorization Act) includes AFA's top priority: a minimum of 10 hours irreducible rest as well as a Fatigue Risk Management Plan (FRMP). The Senate version (S. 1405 Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2017) has far weaker language on fatigue and only includes nine hours minimum rest. Any final bill should include the House language with ten hours of irreducible rest for Flight Attendants. Both bills include the ban on mobile telephone calls on commercial aircraft and the establishment of airport lactation rooms for nursing mothers.

There have been some recent developments. There will be a short-term extension of the FAA Bill at the end of this month and then the House and Senate bills will be rewritten into one bipartisan/bicameral four years FAA bill to be passed in July. Ensuring that 10 hours minimum, irreducible rest as well as an FRMP is included in the final version of this bill is AFA's top legislative priority and there is much work to be done to build support around this issue. We are planning a Day of Action on Capitol Hill on May 15, 2018. Mark this day on your calendar and plan on joining us to help to advance this critical issue!