

CORY GARDNER  
4TH DISTRICT, COLORADO

ENERGY AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE  
ENERGY AND POWER SUBCOMMITTEE  
ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY SUBCOMMITTEE  
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-0604

July 28, 2011

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Senator John Rockefeller  
Chairman  
U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce,  
Science, and Transportation  
254 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce  
Science, and Transportation  
560 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Rockefeller and Ranking Member Hutchison:

As you are aware, on July 22, 2011, the funding authorization for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) expired. There have been 20 previous FAA extensions, yet Congress has failed to act. Consequences of this inaction include furloughed employees, the halting of many airport improvement projects throughout the country, and significant economic decline in our aviation industry. I respectfully request your guidance on a bipartisan solution to fund and reauthorize the FAA.

Last Wednesday, the House passed the 21<sup>st</sup> extension reauthorizing funding for the FAA. However, the Senate has yet to take action, and today we have no bill in place and our airline industry is facing economic strain and uncertainty.

Particularly given that we are in summer travel season and construction season, I urge you to work with the House to pass legislation that will restore funding. States such as Colorado will only have another two months to complete construction on airport improvement projects prior to winter. This situation must be fixed to ensure confidence and job growth for our airline industry. Your consideration is appreciated and I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Cory Gardner  
Member of Congress (CO-4)