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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
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WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6125

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DAVID STRICKLAND, STAFF DIRECTOR
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March 31, 2021

The Honorable Peter Buttigieg
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C., 20003

Dear Secretary Buttigieg,

We write to highlight the inclusion of the *Aviation Manufacturing Jobs Protection Act* in H.R. 1319, the *American Rescue Plan Act of 2021* signed into law on March 11, 2021, and ask that you work quickly to fully implement it. This provision establishes a payroll grant program to provide critical relief for the aerospace supply chain workforce, who have been hard hit by the impacts of COVID-19.

As you know, the COVID-19 pandemic that has devastated the airline industry has also been acutely felt by the aerospace supply chain community. More than 100,000 aerospace manufacturing jobs have already been lost since the outbreak of the pandemic and more than 200,000 jobs remain at risk.

Our nation's aerospace supply chain is critical to our national security and our global economic competitiveness. Through the inclusion of the *Aviation Manufacturing Jobs Protection* provision, Congress has acted to help this sector retain highly skilled workers and continue to drive innovation. It is crucial the Department of Transportation now act to support this workforce.

We look forward to continuing to work with you to support our aerospace supply chain workforce. Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,



Maria Cantwell
Chair



Jerry Moran
U.S. Senator