



About ARSA

Founded in 1984, ARSA is an international trade association with a distinguished history of educating and representing certificated aviation maintenance and alteration facilities before the U.S. Congress, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA), and other national aviation authorities.

Through ARSA, the industry speaks with a single voice to lawmakers, regulators, and the media. More information is available at www.arsa.org.

ARSA's Role In the Industry

As the only association devoted to serving the unique needs of civil aviation maintenance, ARSA helps policymakers develop laws and regulations that reflect industry realities and craft safety standards that are clear, concise, consistent, and uniformly applied. Additionally, the association educates the public, the media, lawmakers, and government officials about the industry's exemplary safety record and economic impact across the globe. As part of its mission to aid the industry in achieving the highest safety level, ARSA works to:

- Help its members understand and comply with government regulations;
- Raise the profile of the aviation maintenance industry and promote its benefits among key audiences;
- Provide policy guidance and technical and legal expertise to lawmakers and regulators;
- Promote and defend the safety record and value of aviation maintenance in the media;
- Represent the industry before Congress, U.S. federal agencies, and international regulatory bodies;
- Encourage grassroots action and involvement from ARSA members; and
- Ensure that regulations and policies are uniformly and fairly applied both in the United States and elsewhere.

ARSA's members and staff are proud of the contribution we make to the aviation industry and the safety of the flying public.

The Aviation Maintenance Industry

Certificated repair stations provide expert, quality service for general and commercial aircraft owners and operators. Through the skill and care of their employees, ARSA member facilities help ensure the safety of aircraft worldwide. For ARSA members, safety is the top priority—good safety is good business.

ARSA's members are an important part of a \$43.1 billion U.S. aviation maintenance industry, which employs over 273,813 workers in all 50 states. North America is a major net exporter of aviation maintenance services and therefore enjoys a positive balance of trade.

U.S. repair stations support European and international aviation. There are over 1,200 EASA certificated repair stations in the United States performing work on European Union-registered aircraft and related components. Many U.S. repair stations hold certificates from other national aviation authorities that allow them to work on aircraft from a variety of countries.

U.S. air carriers also depend on FAA certificated foreign repair stations to support overseas operations and improve efficiencies. There are over 600 FAA certificated international maintenance facilities worldwide authorized to work on U.S.-registered aircraft.



AERONAUTICAL REPAIR STATION ASSOCIATION

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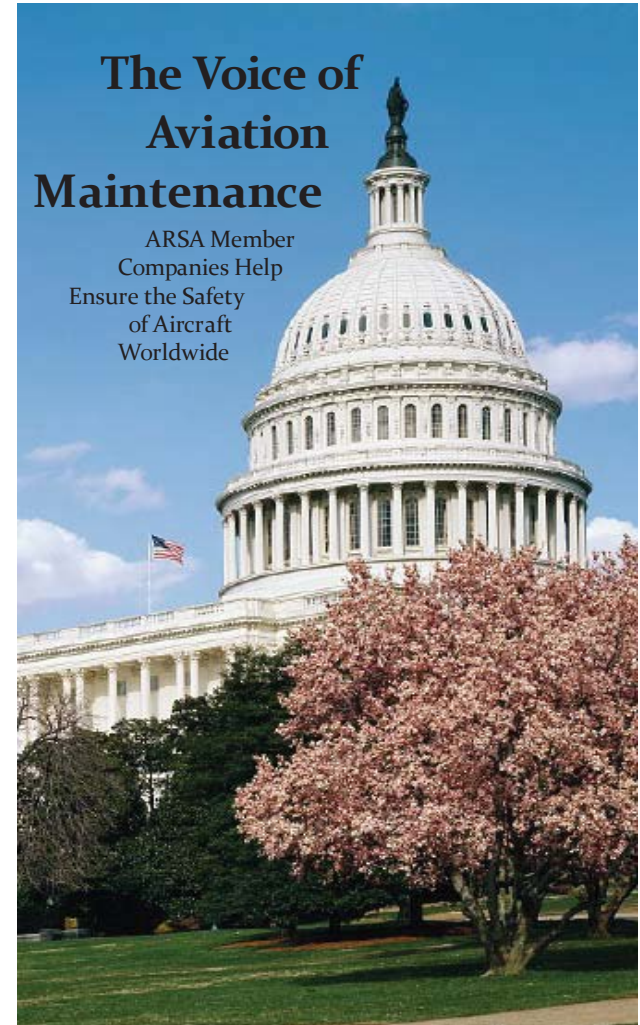
ARSA

2016 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

114TH CONGRESS, 2ND SESSION

The Voice of Aviation Maintenance

ARSA Member Companies Help Ensure the Safety of Aircraft Worldwide



Thank you to our sponsor:



Your Eyes and Ears in Washington

ARSA is the aviation maintenance industry's voice in the halls of Congress. The association's robust legislative efforts complement our renowned regulatory expertise as our team tirelessly fights for your interests on Capitol Hill. Our top priority is ensuring that aviation policy is based on facts, not fear. New laws and regulations should genuinely improve safety without micromanaging or undermining industry competitiveness. The association's legislative team ensures that members of Congress understand the consequences of their actions and keeps you informed about what is happening in Washington. We do this by:

- Engaging lawmakers in our nation's capital and their home states;
- Encouraging grassroots action and involvement from ARSA members;
- Raising the legislative and regulatory profile of the aviation maintenance industry;
- Offering technical and legal expertise to analyze and respond to government actions; and
- Promoting the industry's benefits and safety record among key audiences.

Legislative Priorities: 114th Congress, Second Session

Refrain From Implementing Unnecessary Regulatory Mandates

The biggest long-term threat to the maintenance sector is government intrusion through over-regulation. The basic nature of the aviation industry demands that safety and security are paramount for participating companies. Operators and airlines will not do business with anyone that puts passengers and valuable business assets (i.e., aircraft) at risk. Put simply: good safety is good business. Congress and the FAA must understand that government and the industry share the same safety goals and refrain from micromanaging through unnecessary agency action.

Reform the Regulatory Process

In the Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA), Congress mandated that regulators analyze and minimize the impact of rules on small businesses. Unfortunately, RFA requirements are often ignored. Lawmakers should improve the RFA to ensure agencies follow the law and are held accountable for ignoring its important mandates. Additionally, lawmakers must address unfair practices by regulators and ensure FAA-certificated entities are afforded proper due process protections.

Encourage Bilateral Aviation Safety Agreement (BASAs)

BASAs are government-to-government arrangements that allow cooperation between aviation safety regulators to enhance efficiencies and prevent duplicative oversight. Specifically, bilateral agreements with comprehensive Maintenance Implementation Procedures (MIP) significantly reduce certification costs for repair stations. In fact, according to a recent ARSA study, American repair stations pay a 300 percent mark-up when applying for certification by "foreign" civil aviation authorities (CAAs) when the home country does not have a BASA with the United States. This additional cost burden impairs U.S. repair stations' profitability, particularly for smaller companies. Congress must encourage the FAA to enter into more BASAs and refrain from enacting legislation that disrupts current international aviation accords.

Give the FAA the Resources to Do its Job

Aviation maintenance companies rely on the FAA for congressionally-mandated certifications and inspections. Failing to provide the agency sufficient resources results in administrative delays, ultimately undermining the U.S. aviation industry's competitiveness. ARSA calls on Congress to fully fund the FAA to prevent aviation maintenance companies from being detrimentally impacted by inadequate agency resources and government shutdowns.



Invest in a Skilled and Dynamic Aviation Workforce

The aviation maintenance sector is growing and hiring. Unfortunately, the industry faces a shortage of qualified technical workers. Congress must channel resources to train a new generation of skilled workers. It can begin by sharpening the focus of career and technical education programs through the Carl D. Perkins Act and Higher Education Act. By modernizing these laws, Washington can create new opportunities for collaboration between employers, government agencies and education institutions to build programs that align with business needs while reinforcing the importance of applied skills.

Restore Tax Code Certainty and Simplification

As primarily small to medium-sized businesses, ARSA members are overburdened by a complex and inefficient tax code. Congress should proceed simultaneously on corporate and pass-through tax reform to ensure all businesses benefit from improvements to the Internal Revenue Code. Additionally, Congress should ensure the tax code incentivizes capital investment and business risk-taking. Congress should also permanently repeal the estate tax. ARSA's family-owned member companies are forced to incur significant estate planning and insurance costs, wasting resources that should be invested in their businesses.

To learn more and become involved, visit

www.ARSA.org/legislative