



July 19, 2023
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C., 20515

Dear Members of Congress:

The Travel Technology Association (“Travel Tech”) supports H.R. 3935, the Securing Growth and Robust Leadership in American Aviation Act, bipartisan legislation to reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and related aviation programs for the next five years.

The Travel Technology Association’s mission is to empower traveler choice. To do so, we bring together travel innovators to promote transparency and competition through education and advocacy. Our members are online travel agencies, metasearch engines, short-term rental platforms, global distribution systems, and travel management companies. H.R. 3935 includes several key provisions sought by Travel Tech to improve airline travel for consumers and support the Travel Tech member companies that serve them:

- Section 704: The bill reauthorizes the U.S. Department of Transportation’s (DOT) Aviation Consumer Protection Advisory Committee (“ACPAC”) and adds a seat for ticket agents based on legislation (H.R. 3780, the ACPAC Modernization Act) introduced by Rep. Dina Titus (D-NV) and others. Ticket agents sell 50% of all airline tickets each year and have deep expertise to share on consumer protection issues, including ancillary fees, refunds, and more;
- Section 708: The bill creates a New Passenger Experience Advisory Committee at DOT, with a seat set aside for ticket agents among its membership. This committee will bring together a broad group of aviation stakeholders to advise the Secretary of Transportation on ways to improve airline travel; and
- Section 710: The bill includes language directing the DOT to require refunds for a cancelled or significantly changed flight only after the ticket agent is in possession of the funds in question.

While we support the above provisions, Travel Tech opposes the inclusion of Section 701, which repeals the DOT’s Full Fare Advertising Rule. This rule requires that the entire price for airfare, including taxes and fees, be disclosed to consumers in the first instance following an itinerary search. Its repeal will undermine consumers’ ability to effectively comparison shop and choose the best travel option to meet their needs and budget.



We thank the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee leaders for their tireless work on drafting H.R. 3935 and urge your support when it is considered by the House this week.

Sincerely,

Laura Chadwick

President & CEO
The Travel Technology Association