

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 15, 2011

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
235 Cannon HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Eric Cantor
Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
303 Cannon HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer
Minority Whip
U.S. House of Representatives
1705 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner, Minority Leader Pelosi, Majority Leader Cantor and Minority Whip Hoyer:

We write to you regarding the ongoing debt-ceiling negotiations and depreciation deductions for general aviation aircraft. We appreciate your attention to this matter and consideration of our request.

As you continue your discussions about ways to address our national debt, we encourage you to consider the important role of the general aviation industry and the depreciation of general aviation aircraft in our economic recovery and well-being.

The general aviation industry provides over 1.2 million jobs in the U.S. and contributes over \$150 billion to our economy each year. In 2010, U.S. general aviation manufacturers delivered 1,334 airplanes with an estimated overall value of \$7.9 billion, with 62 percent of that value tied to exports. In fact, the general aviation industry is one of the few remaining domestic manufacturing industries that provide a trade surplus for the U.S. Much of this positive economic impact can be attributed to aircraft depreciation deductions in the tax code, which spurs investment, domestic manufacturing, and economic growth.

General aviation aircraft are an essential part of our transportation system and provide businesses with direct access to domestic and international markets. Unfortunately, during the current economic downturn some people have attacked the use of business aviation aircraft, which continues to depress new aircraft sales and jeopardize skilled, high-paying jobs. These misguided attacks do not serve our broader goals of strengthening our economy, domestic manufacturing, or creating jobs.


While we support reasonable measures to confront our fiscal challenges, arbitrarily increasing taxes on a single industry is a mistake. Simply put, removing sound and effective tax policies

that incentivize investment in our economy will not help the private sector to lead us out of our economic recession.


Respectfully, we request that any proposal which would increase taxes on the general aviation industry be rejected.

Again, we thank you for your consideration of our request. Should you have any questions please contact us directly or Brad Christie (Rep. Sam Graves) at 202-225-7041 or brad.christie@mail.house.gov or Brandon Webb (Rep. John Barrow) at 202-225-2823 or brandon.webb@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



Sam Graves
Member of Congress



John Barrow
Member of Congress



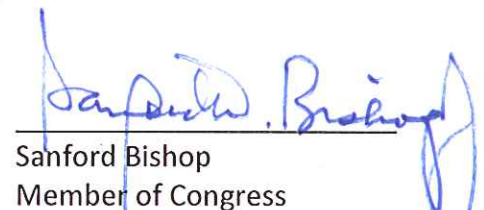
Billy Long
Member of Congress



Mike Pompeo
Member of Congress



Lynn Westmoreland
Member of Congress



Sanford Bishop
Member of Congress



Tim Huelskamp
Member of Congress



Lou Barletta
Member of Congress



Lynn Jenkins
Member of Congress



Donald Manzullo
Member of Congress



Leonard Boswell
Member of Congress



Howard Coble
Member of Congress



Jack Kingston
Member of Congress



Bill Shuster
Member of Congress



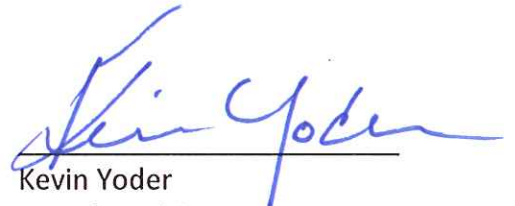
Thomas Petri
Member of Congress



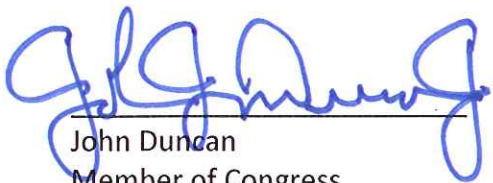
Aaron Schock
Member of Congress



Randy Hultgren
Member of Congress



Kevin Yoder
Member of Congress



John Duncan
Member of Congress



Bill Posey
Member of Congress



Chip Cravaack
Member of Congress



Don Young
Member of Congress