



February 18, 2025

Chris Rocheleau, Acting Administrator  
Federal Aviation Administration  
800 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Acting Administrator Rocheleau,

Thank you for your efforts and leadership to ensure the United States maintains the safest and most efficient airspace system in the world. I look forward to working with the Trump Administration to move forward on modernizing our nation's air traffic facilities and equipment.

Today, as a representative of the General Aviation industry, which contributes nearly \$300 billion annually to our nation's economy and provides more than 1.2 million jobs, I write to strongly urge the Federal Aviation Administration to put a halt to the increasing use of Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast (ADS-B) for frivolous lawsuits, questionable enforcement actions, and the collection of airport landing fees.

As you know, FAA's ADS-B mandate became effective in 2020 for aircraft operating in rule airspace and nearly 112,000 general aviation aircraft have been equipped at a direct cost to aircraft owners of more than half a billion dollars.

Prior to the mandate, AOPA fully supported equipage as we were assured ADS-B would only be used to improve air traffic safety and airspace efficiencies.

We are now seeing FAA enforcement actions based on ADS-B data to prevent legal water landings or frivolous lawsuits where complainants are suing for nuisance, trespass, and intentional infliction of emotional distress for aircraft flying at 4,000 feet AGL in full compliance with FAA requirements. Pilots are now being forced to pay expensive legal fees to defend themselves against these questionable enforcement actions and frivolous lawsuits. Moreover, a cottage industry of companies contracting with public-use airports are now using ADS-B data to collect airport fees from general aviation pilots. As you can understand, these actions carry potential safety and individual privacy concerns that must be addressed.

We fully appreciate the efforts and collaboration FAA has had with industry in developing the Limiting Aircraft Data Displayed (LADD) program and the Privacy ICAO Address (PIA) program. Congress also recently took a positive step to further limit the uses of ADS-B data for certain enforcement actions in last year's FAA Reauthorization.

Unfortunately, given the continued concerns from pilots across the country regarding the use of ADS-B data for non-safety issues, there is more to do in this area, and I look forward to working with you, the FAA, and Congress, to address this important matter.

Sincerely,



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cc: DOT Secretary Sean Duffy  
U.S. Senator Ted Cruz  
U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell  
Representative Sam Graves  
Representative Rick Larsen