

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 02, 2014

The Honorable Anthony Foxx
Secretary of Transportation
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

The Honorable Shaun Donovan
Director
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Dear Secretary Foxx and Director Donovan:

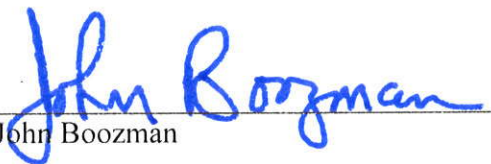
As cosponsors of S. 2103, the *General Aviation Pilot Protection Act*, we urge the Administration to carry out an expedited review of the FAA's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to modernize third-class medical requirements for small aircraft pilots, based on the lessons learned from the highly-successful sport pilot rule. We urge that the review be completed within one month so that the proposal can be released for public comments as soon as possible.

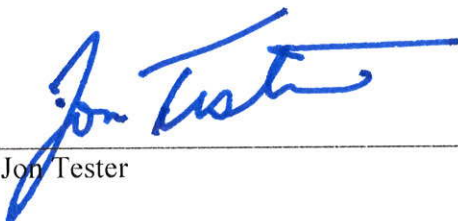
The Department has indicated that the "intended effect of this action is to provide relief from having to obtain a medical certificate for pilots engaged in low-risk flying, such as private pilots operating a small, general aviation aircraft." As you know, this NPRM would expand upon the highly-successful light sport pilot medical standard, which has been in place for more than a decade. The FAA was asked to initiate a review nearly three years ago and has thoroughly analyzed the issue.

We are pleased that the administrative process is moving forward because this is a time-sensitive issue. In recent years, general aviation (GA) has suffered significant setbacks, and our country risks losing its position as a global leader in GA. Tens of thousands of GA pilots are giving up flying. The loss of these women and men in general aviation has a significant negative impact on economic conditions and job opportunities in sectors ranging from manufacturing to agriculture and tourism. The GA community and related industries are a very important part of the economy and our transportation system.

We appreciate your attention to these concerns, and we urge the Administration to prioritize and expedite this reform and others, which would lower unnecessary barriers to the GA community. We look forward to your response, and as always, please let us know any time we can be helpful to you.

Sincerely,


John Boozman



Jon Tester



James M. Inhofe




Orrin G. Hatch



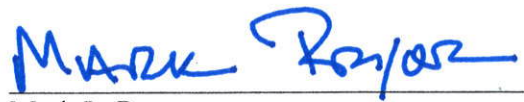
Joe Donnelly



Pat Roberts



James E. Risch



Mark L. Pryor



Mary L. Landrieu



Jerry Moran



Roger F. Wicker