Helicopter Association International Applauds
House Committee Vote on HR 1108

Alexandria, Virginia (March 27, 2019) – Helicopter Association International (HAI) applauds the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for passing HR 1108.

HR 1108, the Aviation Funding Stability Act of 2019, would authorize the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to draw from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund (AATF) in the event of a government shutdown.

The legislation is designed to provide a limited, targeted way of ensuring stability for the aviation system and it does not change congressional direction or oversight in any way.

“The Committee vote along with the strong support of 40 aviation-related associations sends a strong message to Congress that this bill provides needed protection to the FAA from future government shutdowns,” said Matt Zuccaro, president and CEO of HAI.

Zuccaro noted HAI’s support, along with other general aviation associations, for Representative Sam Grave’s amendment that would increase annual Airport Improvement Program (AIP) contract authority. This amendment will provide much-needed support for investment in capital improvement projects that will enhance the safety and efficiency of our nation’s public-use airports.

Zuccaro thanked Chairman DeFazio for his leadership in sponsoring this important bill. “The FAA provides vital services to the aviation industry and the nation. Most importantly, they make the skies safer for all who use our national airspace. We are grateful to Rep. DeFazio for recognizing the safety issue caused by not providing the FAA with stable funding and working to address it quickly.”

Zuccaro concluded that HAI looks forward to continuing to work with Congress and the Administration to ensure final passage of HR 1108 into law.

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HAI is the professional trade association for the international helicopter industry. HAI’s 18,000 members represent 1,800 aviation businesses, and safely operate more than 4,500 helicopters approximately 2.3 million hours each year in more than 73 nations. HAI is dedicated to the promotion of the helicopter as a safe, effective method of commerce and to the advancement of the international helicopter community.