March 16, 2020

The Hon. Elaine L. Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Chao:

As our nation works to respond to the threat of the coronavirus, we wanted to make ourselves available to assist in any way possible. We stand ready to work with the Administration so that the important role our industry can play in responding and mitigating the many challenges of this health issue is fully realized.

The general and business aviation industry is comprised of a diverse fleet, capable of rapidly responding to needs in every part of the country and transporting time sensitive supplies, medical and testing equipment, organ transplants, and key personnel and patients to over 5,000 general aviation airports.

In times of crisis, the businesses our Associations represent have assisted with disaster relief by providing evacuation flights, delivering supplies, and surveying damage. The missions our member companies undertake are vitally important and they have considerable experience operating during emergencies.

Our industry has already taken proactive measures to inform operators, manufacturers, and maintenance providers about appropriate coronavirus response actions. We continue to disseminate best practices to our members, sharing the latest intelligence, and making subject matter experts available for consultation.

Thank you for the continued work you are doing to keep Americans safe. We look forward to working with you to ensure general and business aviation will be available and fully utilized as a critical component of our nation’s response to this challenge.

Sincerely,

Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
General Aviation Manufacturers Association
Helicopter Association International
National Air Transportation Association
National Business Aviation Association