

2024 Hill Day Talking Point Cards

GAMA has prepared the following high level talking points for your use and pocket-cards with these messages will be provided to you on Wednesday. We encourage you to highlight each of these topics in every meeting and where appropriate, provide examples.

FAA Reauthorization

- It is critical that policymakers complete their work on the FAA Reauthorization bill to provide important direction and stability for the agency. The agency's current authority lapses on May 10, 2024.
- At a time when aviation safety is front and center, an FAA Reauthorization bill will help strengthen the FAA and facilitate the aviation sector's future path towards increasing levels of safety and innovation. Passing an FAA bill will improve FAA's safety oversight capabilities, help address agency regulatory challenges, and strengthen FAA's international effectiveness.
- GAMA has advocated for provisions to support innovation, sustainability, and operational efficiency and increase the effectiveness of aviation safety bilateral agreements to support acceptance of safety enhancing technologies and new products including AAM.
- We are supportive of the compromise reached by House and Senate aviation committee leaders.

Aviation Manufacturing and Safety

- Safety is the top priority for my company and the general aviation industry. Cite example(s) of the commitment to advance safety in the manufacturing process or through a new product.
- GAMA supported the Aircraft Certification Safety and Accountability Act (2020) and there has been significant progress in implementing the law including recent publication of the final rule for safety management systems for manufacturers. We believe that the robustness and effectiveness of the certification and production process is strong.
- Recent incidents have raised questions about the production process for commercial transport aircraft. GAMA members believe that there must be a continuous commitment to improve safety. We stand ready to work with FAA to identify what is needed for improvement.

- Offer GAMA as a resource if they have questions or need more information. If you have a facility in their state or district, invite members and staff to come to the facility and learn firsthand about the rigor and effort to ensure safety.

General Suggestions

- Underscore that general aviation manufacturing supports highly skilled, good-paying jobs. In the U.S., general aviation supports 1.2 million jobs and \$247 billion in economic output annually.
- Use these meetings as an opportunity to provide insight on the way your company facilitates getting products to market in a safe and effective fashion as well as challenges faced in the certification process.
- Highlight tax and funding proposals like the restoration of Research and Development expensing to foster competitiveness and innovation.
- Additionally, if raised, we oppose the Biden Administration proposals to target the industry with unproductive tax increases on aviation fuel and aircraft. A diverse coalition of aviation and labor groups oppose these taxes because of their detrimental effect on new safety and environmental technology investments, communities and businesses, and aviation manufacturing jobs. GAMA is always looking to support and improve the aviation system, but this proposal simply targets the industry.

GAMA Appropriations Priority Areas

- **Timely Action:** GAMA urges timely completion of the FY25 appropriations bill that funds the FAA.
- **FAA Aircraft Certification Service:** The FY25 budget requests \$365.7M for this organization and GAMA supports this funding level at a minimum. We support additional funding, if necessary to help FAA tackle its workload.
- **Aviation Industry Workforce:** GAMA requests \$10M in authorization and funding for a manufacturing component to the Section 625 Workforce Development Grant Program to complement existing programs for pilots and maintenance technicians.
- **Environmental Research:** We request funding for FAA's CLEEN and ASCENT programs to advance aviation technology and sustainable aviation fuel initiatives as well as to support a joint FAA-industry effort to eliminate lead from aviation gasoline for the piston-engine fleet.
- **Mobile Delivery of Clearances:** We support funding of a pilot program to determine the feasibility of using technology for mobile clearance for general aviation operators at five airports that do not have towered data link services.

