

## 2025 GAMA Hill Day Meetings FAA Reauthorization Implementation

### **KEY TALKING POINTS**

- GAMA urges implementation of key provisions in the 2024 FAA Reauthorization that facilitate safety, jobs, innovation, and global competitiveness in aviation. Policymakers should ensure that FAA implements and Congress funds key provisions of the law in a timely manner.
- Key FAA Reauthorization provisions needing to be implemented include a focus on a more efficient and effective rulemaking process to enable safety, innovation and new products; increased use of technology and digitization for more efficient certification and oversight processes; increased safety cooperation and harmonization between bilateral partners; and a stronger workforce for the FAA and industry that are skilled and competent.
- We strongly encourage you to provide examples of how addressing these challenges will benefit your company and its competitiveness.

### **BACKGROUND**

The 2024 FAA Reauthorization will have a lasting impact given the strong foundation of consensus and bipartisan support it was built upon. Please thank policymakers for their support and encourage them to ensure it is implemented as directed, particularly given the increased focus on aviation safety given recent aviation accidents. We encourage emphasis on the following areas:

#### *FAA Rulemaking Process:*

- A contributing factor in preventing safety and innovation from moving forward and benefitting the aviation system has been significant delays in the FAA's promulgation of rulemaking, policies, and guidance which has caused a large backlog of technical standards, policy memos, orders, and advisory circulars.
- Delays in promulgating this information also cause significant regulatory and cost burdens on both industry and FAA by requiring individual special condition and exemption rulemakings for each new aviation product certification rather than promulgating one rule applicable to all in a certification area.
- One way to address this challenge is implementation of the Assistant Administrator for Rulemaking and Regulatory Improvement office to address key rulemaking challenges, improve coordination, and yield support for safety, innovation, and international leadership. This will benefit the entire aviation sector.

#### *Certification Improvements:*

- FAA also needs to work with industry to modernize the FAA review of products from a paper-based system to one that improves safety and efficiency through digitization of FAA systems. Doing so will yield more effective and simultaneous FAA review and likely encourage better safety outcomes.

- For example, the Future State of Type Certification Process study is intended to identify ways to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the certification process by better leveraging the use of digitization, modeling techniques, and software systems and developing a more robust risk-based approach.

#### *Global Aviation Safety:*

- GAMA has been a consistent advocate for harmonization between bilateral partners to support the flow of commerce into the global marketplace. The FAA must ensure that aviation safety agreements, especially with leading aircraft states of design, deliver on their promise to enhance regulatory effectiveness and efficiency supporting product delivery into the domestic and international marketplace.
- The 2024 Reauthorization included provisions to support this effort including directing the collection of metrics to measure validation times and development of an FAA International Strategic Plan.
- Metrics are being collected by industry today and our understanding is the FAA is working towards a strategic plan for international engagement as well as a more effective use of metrics. These efforts, and others, should be prioritized to support competitiveness, energy and national security, and safety.

#### *FAA Workforce and Agency Leadership:*

- The importance of aviation to the U.S. economy and pace of aviation industry innovation and product development highlights the critical importance of strong FAA leadership and highly skilled and technical workforce to maintain safety while enabling growth and global competitiveness.
- Continued training for FAA personnel and knowledge-sharing opportunities with industry are also critical to bolstering the technical expertise of the FAA and enhancing their oversight capabilities. The FAA's technical competence correlates directly with the industry's ability to bring new products and safety enhancements to the market.
- Leadership is also critical for the agency. At a time when many senior leadership positions are vacant and others are electing to leave the agency, ensuring there is adequate staffing and the ability for leadership to make decisions is crucial.
- If asked about Bryan Bedford's pending nomination to be FAA Administrator, we support the U.S. Senate moving forward expeditiously to consider him so we can learn more about how he plans to lead the agency at such a critical time. Bedford, a pilot with more than three decades' experience in aviation, serves as CEO of Republic Airways and previously led Mesaba and Business Express Airlines.

#### *Other Areas of Interest in FAA Reauthorization:*

- An additional background document on a larger number of FAA Reauthorization GAMA-supported items can be found [HERE](#).