

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1602

January 13, 2009

Mr. Chairman:

Today, I speak in opposition to a provision in bill HR 384, the Troubled Reform and Accountability Act, which requires corporations receiving TARP assistance to divest themselves of privately owned or leased aircraft.

General Aviation is crucial to the economic stability of Kansas and our entire nation. At a time when the economy is facing deep losses, this provision would be a severe blow to an industry that provides millions of aviation manufacturing jobs. There's no doubt the consequences would be felt permanently and deeply not only in Kansas, but across the country.

Efforts that are directed toward irresponsible CEOs should not destroy the manufacturing jobs that average Americans rely on to pay the bills and feed their families. General aviation contributes more than \$150 billion to the U.S. economy annually and employs more than 1.2 million people. It's also worth noting aviation is one of the few domestic manufacturing industries that maintain a positive trade balance for the United States.

I urge you and the members of this committee to think long and hard about the far-reaching and harmful consequences of this provision. This Congress has been charged by the American people to see that our economy recovers and to prevent even more jobs from being lost. Thank you.



Lynn Jenkins, CPA
Member of Congress

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January 9, 2009

Honorable Lynn Jenkins
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1602

Dear Representative Jenkins:

I am writing to ask you to contact Chairman Dodd of the Senate Banking Committee, Chairman Frank of House Financial Services Committee, and President-Elect Obama's economic team to urge them to oppose efforts in Congress to punish corporations that own or lease business aircraft. This is a matter of utmost urgency.

As you recall, the Auto Loan Financing bill that passed the House in December required corporations receiving government assistance to divest any business aircraft they owned or leased. The Bush Administration later incorporated the same measure in its loan package after the bill died in the Senate, and I fear that there are efforts underway to replicate the provision for banks and financial firms that own or lease aircraft. While I understand that Congress and the Administration have been reacting to the criticism the CEO's of GM, Ford, and Chrysler encountered when they flew business aircraft to Washington, the fact is that these provisions, if replicated, will lead to fewer aircraft orders, cost jobs, and tarnish the image of the general aviation industry.

You know as well as anyone how important general aviation is to the national economy and to the State of Kansas, and that general aviation manufacturers are already suffering from a weak economy. The last thing we need is for Congress to pursue an effort that may feel good but that will ultimately weaken an important domestic manufacturing industry. Chairman Dodd, Chairman Frank, and the President-Elect's economic team need to hear from leaders like you about how important general aviation manufacturing is for the U.S. economy. Targeting general aviation is an unacceptable and counterproductive response to our nation's economic situation which will cost us good, high-paying jobs in Kansas and throughout the United States.

I thank you for your continued support of general aviation and for considering this urgent request.

Sincerely,



David M. Coleal
Vice President and General Manager
Learjet

Cc: Kansas Congressional Delegation

January 13, 2009



Jack J. Pelton
Chairman, President &
CEO

The Honorable Lynn Jenkins
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Jenkins:

On behalf of Cessna Aircraft Company, and the thousands of Kansans who are employed at our facilities in Wichita and Independence, I want to express our appreciation for your strong opposition to a provision especially harmful to general aviation that has been included in HR 384, the Troubled Assets Relief Program (TARP) reauthorization bill. This legislation has been referred to the House Financial Services Committee of which you are a member.

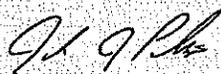
As you know, this particular provision would require TARP participants to divest themselves of any general aviation aircraft currently owned, and to terminate any existing leases of general aviation aircraft. It would be disastrous to the general aviation industry, which is of vital importance to Kansas and the nation. We know that this provision would set a very bad precedent, and that its ultimate effects would be highly counterproductive -- fewer aircraft orders, severe reductions in high quality manufacturing jobs, and harm to the valued presence of general aviation in the national and world economies. We can least afford this now, especially in light of the severe challenges already being faced by general aviation resulting from the economic downturn over the past several months, which have already caused significant layoffs at many of our companies, including Cessna.

Overall, general aviation contributes more than \$150 billion per year to the national economy and employs 1,265,000 people in highly skilled, well paying jobs throughout the manufacturing and supply chain communities. Last year, our industry delivered almost 3,300 aircraft, with a total value of almost \$12 billion, in the United States and around the world. Over 38% of these aircraft were exported to other nations, leading to a trade surplus for our industry.

Congresswoman Jenkins
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Thank you for your support of the general aviation industry and for your opposition to this provision of the TARP legislation. We look forward to continuing to work with you in Congress on other matters of high importance to our industry, to our employees, and to the people of Kansas and the nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack J. Pelton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "J".

Jack J. Pelton

January 9, 2009

The Honorable Kathleen Sebelius
Governor
State of Kansas
Capitol, 300 SW 10th Avenue, Suite 2125
Topeka, KS 66612-1590

Dear Governor Sebelius,

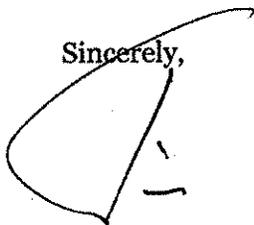
I am writing to ask for your help with an important business matter that affects jobs in Kansas. Hawker Beechcraft, along with all of the other general aviation manufacturers, needs your assistance urging key leaders to oppose efforts in Congress that punish corporations who own or lease business aircraft. We ask that you contact Chairman Dodd of the Senate Banking Committee, Chairman Frank of the House Financial Services Committee, and President-Elect Obama's economic team, as this is a matter of utmost importance to our business.

As you recall, December's Auto Loan Financing bill that passed in the House required corporations receiving government assistance to divest any business aircraft they owned or leased. The Bush Administration later incorporated the same measure in its loan package after the bill died in the Senate, and I fear that there are efforts underway to replicate the provision for banks and financial firms that own or lease aircraft. I understand that Congress and the Administration are reacting to the criticism the automotive industry CEOs encountered when they flew business aircraft to Washington. The fact is that these provisions tarnish the image of the general aviation industry and, if replicated, will lead to fewer aircraft orders and additional lost jobs in Kansas.

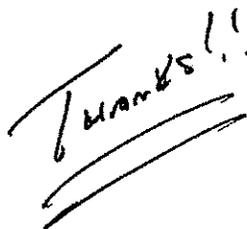
You know as well as anyone how important general aviation is to the State of Kansas. Our company is already suffering from one of the most challenging economic environments in our history and the last thing we need is for Congress to pursue an effort that will significantly weaken our business. Chairman Dodd, Chairman Frank, and the President-Elect's economic team need to hear from leaders like you about the importance of general aviation manufacturing to the U.S. economy. Targeting general aviation is an unacceptable and counterproductive response to our nation's economic situation. It will cost us good, high-paying jobs in Kansas and throughout the United States.

I thank you for your continued support of general aviation and for considering this urgent request.

Sincerely,



James E. Schuster
Chairman and CEO



cc: Kansas Congressional Delegation