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February 3, 2012

WASHINGTON – Congressman Charles F. Bass (NH-02) applauded House passage of the conference report to reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) through Fiscal Year 2015 this morning.

Bass, who has repeatedly called for a long-term reauthorization of the FAA, said:

"Passage of a long-term FAA reauthorization was a long time coming, and a four-year reauthorization will give the agency the stability and security it needs to plan long-term infrastructure and safety projects, including modernizing the national air system. It's ridiculous that Congress has had to pass 23 short-term extensions to reauthorize the FAA for the last five years. The FAA and its employees deserve this long-term extension so we avoid another partial shutdown and keep them all on the job. I urge the Senate to pass this conference report as soon as possible so the President can sign it into law."

The legislation also reauthorizes the Essential Air Service (EAS) program, which is important to maintaining airline service to our nation's smaller, more rural airports. Bass has long supported the EAS program and joined many of his colleagues in writing letters to Leadership about the importance of preserving this program.

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