Dear NASAO Colleagues and Business Partners,

2019 brought several successes and challenges to the organization that served to highlight so many things NASAO does well, and a few that we can strive to improve. NASAO continues to be a strong voice for the states and a go-to resource for state, local and federal governments, legislators, and the aviation community as a whole. Thank you for your active involvement in the association as we continue to serve the public’s interests in aviation.

Our association management company’s U.S. office closure provided the opportunity to reassess NASAO’s priorities and staffing needs, and we look forward to laying new groundwork for the work ahead. Our Washington Conference is a great event and sets the stage for the year ahead. I encourage your participation as we set the agenda for 2020 and identify those elements most critical to the association and our member states. In addition, this year’s fall conference in Greenville, South Carolina, September 12-16 will provide yet another opportunity to gather with membership, our business partners, and federal agencies to collaborate on critical topics such as non-primary entitlements, the block grant program, and the next FAA Reauthorization bill that is just around the corner.

I appreciate the opportunity to serve as your Chair for 2020 and appreciate your support. We are so much stronger when united, and I solicit your inputs as we continue to adapt NASAO to best meet the needs across the nation’s airport system.

Sincerely,

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2020 Chair
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Deputy Commissioner of Aviation, Alaska Department of Transportation & Public Facilities

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Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Puerto Rico
Executive Director, South Carolina Aeronautics Commission
Our Vision:
To be the nationally recognized voice for the public interest, states and territories on aviation and the national aviation system.

Our Mission:
To encourage and foster cooperation and mutual aid among the states and territories, the federal government and public sector in the development and promotion of aviation systems that can safely and effectively serve the needs of citizens, commerce and communities throughout the United States.

**NASAO Committees**
- Airport Planning, Development & Operations Committee
- Block Grant Committee
- Communications Committee
- Finance Committee
- Legislative Affairs Committee
- NASAO/AASHTO Standing Committee on Aviation
- NextGen & Airspace Committee
- Nominations Committee
- UAS Committee

**The NASAO Training Program offers more than 30 Courses in 7 Modules**
- Being Aware of the Airport Environment
- Appreciating Key Partners
- Aviation Planning 101
- Environmental Planning 101
- Engineering 101
- Essentials of Project Funding
- 1-800 Citizen Hotline

**NASAO advocates for the successful influence of federal and state aviation policy**
- Increases NASAO visibility on the Hill
- Drafts legislative language to implement key reauthorizations priorities
- Enhances efforts to involve NASAO in key legislative initiatives and issues

**Bring Value to Members**

**Educational Leadership**

**The Voice of the States**
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NASAO MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS
10 Reasons NASAO Membership is Important to You, Your Agency and Your Customers

1. **INFLUENCE**
NASAO’s membership is limited to the States, U.S. Territories and Commonwealths. NASAO is a consensus driven association of aviation professionals who serve the public interest and is a trusted source of accurate information. NASAO regularly briefs administration officials, Members of Congress, as well as the National Governors Association and federal agency heads.

2. **OUTREACH**
Each year, the NASAO staff produces the association’s annual convention and trade show, the annual Washington Legislative Conference and an EAA AirVenture Oshkosh meeting. The experienced and knowledgeable NASAO team ensures that the members are their priority and works to provide the service needed. NASAO has long been known for delivering the solutions that help advance the needs of the states.

3. **FUNDING**
NASAO played a key role in coalitions that helped pass three of the most important infrastructure investment bills in U.S. aviation history, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018, AIR-21, and VISION-100. NASAO continues to work with Congress and the FAA to ensure adequate Airport Improvement Program funding, continuation of the State Block Grant Program (now 20 states), appropriate General Aviation airport investments, and beneficial state apportionment levels.

4. **ACCESS**
Senators, Members of the House of Representatives, U.S. DOT Secretaries, FAA Administrators, NTSB Chairmen, TSA Administrators, Senior Administration officials and Association heads have all been speakers at NASAO events. NASAO staff regularly brief the Administration, U.S. DOT, FAA, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Treasury, Department of Commerce, Department of Agriculture, the Office of Management and Budget and the Governmental Accountability Office on issues important to the states.

5. **ADVOCACY**
While there are many associations in Washington, D.C. for the various facets of the large and diverse aviation community, only NASAO speaks for the states, protecting and promoting aviation in the public interest. When necessary, NASAO effectively opposes unnecessary or inefficient regulation or rulemaking while endorsing those that provide a broad based benefit to the members.

6. **SECURITY**
NASAO was the co-author of TSA’s Guidelines for General Aviation Airports, and has successfully campaigned for effective common-sense security regulations while rejecting those that would be ineffective. The NASAO staff has met with former DHS Secretaries and current TSA Administrator David Pekoske and has an excellent working relationship with the TSA aviation staff.

7. **RESEARCH**
In 1996, NASAO was an important advocate for the establishment of a Transportation Research Board (TRB) Airport Cooperative Research Program. NASAO holds a position on the oversight board of the ACRP that conducts important research and has been federally funded at $15 million annually.

8. **COMMUNICATIONS**
*NASAO Briefs* is a bi-weekly members-only electronic newsletter providing an update on happenings in Washington, D.C. and among the states. All NASAO/FAA regions jointly participate in monthly, bi-monthly, quarterly, or semi-annual telecons.

9. **PARTNERSHIP**
At the federal level, NASAO maintains a close working relationship with agencies, associations and businesses that engage with aviation regulation and has an extensive history of productive Memoranda of Understanding with the FAA. Whether official or informal, NASAO focuses on strong relationship building with those involved in regulation and legislation. NASAO also offers unparalleled networking opportunities between and among members to share insights, solve problems and discuss issues.

10. **EDUCATION**
The non-profit NASAO Center for Aviation Research and Education provides an introductory training program to state aviation employees to gain a basic understanding of the aviation industry as well as to provide an orientation to the complex world of airports. NASAO is also spearheading innovation through the creation of the Online Aviation Training Program in conjunction with the FAA.
The NASAO 89th Annual Convention & Tradeshow
September 13-16, 2020
Hyatt Regency | Greenville, South Carolina
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**DID YOU KNOW?**

**AS A NASAO MEMBER YOU HAVE ACCESS TO:**
- Webinars
- Data reports
- Aviation online training
- Exclusive networking
- Additional resources on the website

**MEMBER PORTAL**
NASAO IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE THE LAUNCH OF ADDITIONAL MODULES THREE THROUGH FIVE!

1. BEING AWARE OF THE AIRPORT ENVIRONMENT
2. APPRECIATING KEY PARTNERS
3. AVIATION PLANNING 101
4. ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING 101
5. ENGINEERING 101
6. ESSENTIALS OF PROJECT FUNDING
7. 1-800 CITIZEN HOTLINE

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTING PARTNERS
NEEDED REFORMS
As the 116th Congress looks to take on a comprehensive infrastructure bill, NASAO urges support for robust aviation funding and reforms not addressed in the H.R. 302, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018.

- Support H.R. 1108 to protect FAA from future Federal Government shutdowns
- Support increasing Airport Improvement Program (AIP) investment by $250 million to $3.6 billion in FY2020 and incrementally increasing that amount to $4 billion over the course of five years
- Support reforming the Non-Primary Entitlement (NPE) Program to account for reduction in State Apportionment
- Support raising and indexing the $4.50 Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) Cap
- Support the creation of more avenues for pilots to gain credit toward airline transport pilot (ATP) certification
- Support alternative and environmentally conscious methods of compliance with the Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF) testing requirements at Part 139 airports
- Support increased investments for aviation workforce development initiatives.

UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS (UAS)
NASAO urges Congress to outline a constructive federal, state and local regulatory framework for drone integration that permits state governance on time, manner and place of low-altitude drone activity. NASAO supports granting counter UAS authority to states.

CRITICAL PROGRAMS
NASAO maintains support for fully funding the Essential Air Service (EAS) Program, the Small Community Air Service Program (SCASp), the Federal Contract Tower (FCT) Program and NextGen. Several long-overdue reforms to these programs were included in H.R. 302, and NASAO looks forward to their successful implementation.

IMPLEMENTATION OF STATE BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM EXPANSION
H.R. 302 increased the number of states eligible to participate in the State Block Grant Program from 10 states to 20. Several states have expressed interest in applying, and NASAO aims to work closely with the FAA to inform and prepare those states throughout the entire process.

FY18 SUPPLEMENTAL DISCRETIONARY GRANTS
H.R. 1625, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018, provided an additional $1 billion in discretionary airport infrastructure grants. The Act stipulated that the Secretary shall give priority consideration to projects at: (a) nonprimary airports that are classified as regional, local or basic airports and not located within a metropolitan or micropolitan statistical area as defined by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB); or (b) primary airports that are classified as small or non-hub airports.

- These grants are to be made available through FY2020, only $205 million have been awarded so far.
- Of the 1,099 non-primary airports nationwide eligible to receive supplemental funds, only one percent received funding, as opposed to just over eight percent of small and non-hub airports.
- General aviation airports received 11 grants or 25 percent of the first round of funding. The remaining 75 percent went to non-primary commercial service airports.

NASAO believes Congressional intent should be closely adhered to by the FAA when administering these supplemental grants. Safety critical runway and taxiway projects in rural areas should always take priority over terminal projects at non-primary commercial service airports.

FY19 SUPPLEMENTAL DISCRETIONARY GRANTS
H.J. Res.31, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2019 provided an additional $500 million in discretionary airport infrastructure grants to remain available until 2021. No parameters are provided for the distribution of these funds, nor is there reference to a reduced cost-share. However, H.R. 302, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 authorized $1.02 billion for additional airport discretionary grants in FY 2019, increasing each year to $1.11 billion in FY 2023. The Act also stipulated that at least 50 percent of the funds are required to be used for non-hub and small hub airports, as well as general aviation airports.

NASAO supports Congress fully funding the amounts authorized in the H.R. 302 and believes Congressional intent in this Act should be closely adhered to by the FAA when administering these supplemental grants. NASAO further supports prioritizing safety critical projects at general aviation airports.
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