



**DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY & COMMUNITY MEDICINE
INJURY PREVENTION UNIT**

April 14, 2010

The Hon. James L. Oberstar (Chairman of the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee)
2365 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Jerry F. Costello (Chairman of the Aviation Subcommittee)
2408 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. John Mica (Ranking Member of the T & I Committee)
2313 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Hon. Thomas E. Petri (Ranking Member of the Aviation Subcommittee)
2462 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: HR 4717 NTSB Reauthorization Act of 2010

Dear Chairman Oberstar, Chairman Costello, Ranking Member Mica, and Ranking Member Petri:

This letter is to support funding for the NTSB at their full authorization level. It is my understanding this will allow the board to hire an additional 66 full-time positions and thus achieve its staffing goal of 477 full-time personnel. Full funding will allow the NTSB to maintain its preeminent position as an investigative body in understanding and articulating for the nation causes of transportation accidents and in making recommendations to assure the safety of the traveling public.

As director of the Injury Prevention Unit in the Department of Family & Community Medicine at Meharry Medical College and national advocate for primary seat belt legislation, improved graduated driver license provisions, enhanced booster seat legislation and legislation to eliminate distracted driving, I highly value collaboration with the NTSB in these life saving efforts. Their expertise and impeccable credibility is respected and trusted across the nation.

Sincerely,

Irwin Goldzweig, Director of the Injury Prevention Unit
Director, Meharry-State Farm Alliance
Department of Family & Community Medicine