

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 27, 2014

Mr. Anthony Foxx
Secretary
United States Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Ave, SE
Washington, D.C. 20590

Dear Secretary Foxx:

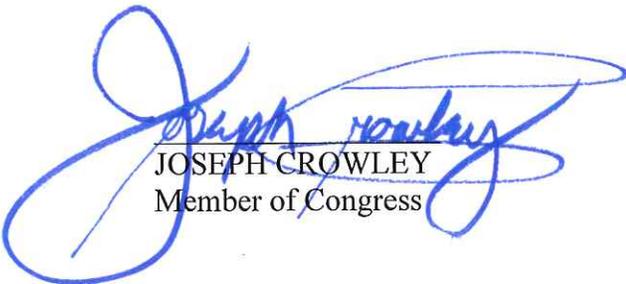
We would like to express our serious concerns about a petition to the U.S. Department of Transportation by Norwegian Air International Limited (NAI) to operate in the United States. NAI's application is troubling because it raises the specter of sanctioning an operating model that, if applied to the broader airline industry, could negatively impact global competition for domestic carriers and set a dangerous precedent for employment practices by all carriers.

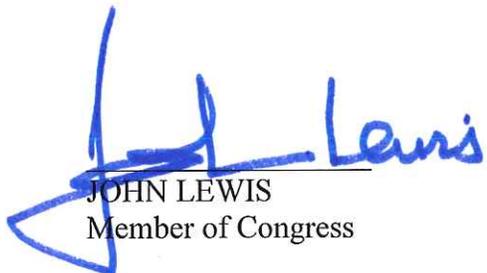
The business practices proposed by Norwegian would allow companies to register in a different country to avoid their own country's regulation, taxes and labor costs. This is a serious problem because of the fact that NAI's parent company, Norwegian Air Shuttle, has publicly acknowledged plans to make use of this practice, which will avoid obligations under its labor contracts and Norwegian labor law. Further, NAI allegedly plans to outsource labor from additional countries where wages are drastically and persistently lower, resulting not only in workers being paid far less than what would be acceptable in the U.S. or Europe, but also putting intense pressure on wages and conditions here in the United States. In short, NAI is seeking to unfairly undercut U.S. domestic carriers and others by avoiding taxes, labor laws and fair wages.

We are deeply concerned that NAI's new business model will do serious damage to the U.S. airline industry's transatlantic business while initiating and sanctioning a race-to-the-bottom in labor practices. NAI's efforts could also set a bad precedent for further implementation and expansion of the U.S.-EU Open Skies Agreement. Unlike their European competitors, U.S. carriers cannot pick and choose which labor and regulatory regime anywhere in the world will most advantage its operations. Should other carriers choose to follow NAI's example, it could very likely hamper some of the outcomes that Open Skies was meant to create.

We appreciate you taking our serious concerns into consideration as you review NAI's application and we look forward to your response.

Sincerely,


JOSEPH CROWLEY
Member of Congress

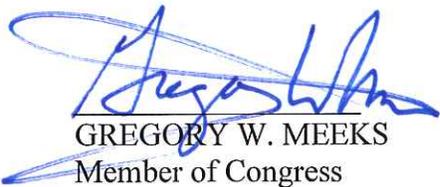

JOHN LEWIS
Member of Congress



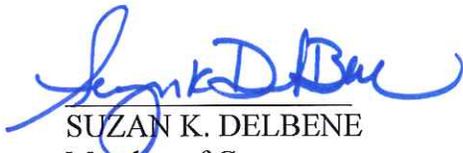
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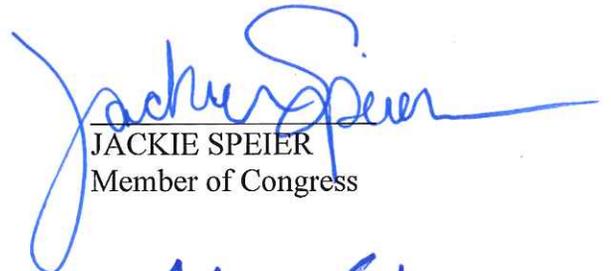
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