

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3802
specter.senate.gov

March 2, 2006

The Honorable Marion C. Blakey
Administrator
Federal Aviation Administration
800 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Administrator Blakey:

I write today regarding the status of contract negotiations between the FAA and its employee unions. It is my understanding that negotiations have been ongoing since July 2005.

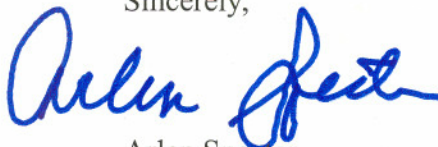
I have been contacted by several constituent members of the National Air Traffic Control Association (NATCA) and the Professional Airways Systems Specialists (PASS) in regard to their concern that negotiations will reach impasse and could potentially result in an imposed contract. I am also aware that NATCA and PASS believe an imposed contract will negatively impact employee morale and effectiveness.

Taking into consideration the importance of ensuring a safe and efficient national air traffic system, I urge you to make every effort to reach a voluntary contract agreement as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

My best.

Sincerely,



Arlen Specter

AS/mk