

NEXT WEEK

Congress will not be in session next week due to the Thanksgiving holiday and recess.

THIS WEEK

<u>Senate</u>

Hearing: Impact of Government Shutdown on Aviation. On November 19, the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee held a hearing titled "Flying on Empty: How Shutdowns Threaten Air Safety, Travel, and the Economy." Much of the hearing focused on the importance of ensuring that air traffic operations are not adversely affected in any future government shutdown. Bills to provide for that funding have been introduced in both the House and Senate. Witness included representatives from the National Air Traffic Controllers Association; Airlines for America; and General Aviation Manufacturers Association. Video and testimony is available here.

Department of Transportation

FAA: Employee Bonuses. On November 20, the FAA announced that 776 air traffic controllers and technicians will receive a \$10,000 award for their work during the federal government shutdown. The award will be sent to those employees who maintained perfect attendance during the shutdown.

• This follows a DHS announcement on November 14 that TSA officers with "exemplary service" during the government shutdown would receive a \$10,000 bonus.

FTA: Bus Grant Awards. On November 20, FTA announced the award of nearly \$2 billion in Low and No Emission grants and Bus Facility grants. This list of grant recipients is here.

DOT: Travel Civility Campaign. On November 19, Transportation Secretary Duffy launched a new civility campaign titled "The Golden Age of Travel Starts with You." DOT has said "the campaign is intended to jumpstart a nationwide conversation around how we can all restore courtesy and class to air travel." The release and video of the Secretary are here.

FTA: National Transit Database Reporting Recission. On November 18, FTA issued a Request for Comments on a proposal to rescind the requirement to submit form WE-20. "After two years of experience with this data collection, FTA has now determined the WE-20 reporting requirement no longer offers sufficient value relative to the administrative burden on transit agencies and is inconsistent with this Administration's deregulatory priorities." Comments are due by December 2. The FTA Notice is here.