

Force. Ms. Nolta has excelled in both civilian service and as a colonel in the Air Force Reserve. Most recently, Ms. Nolta served as Deputy Director of Legislative Liaison for the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force. She also excelled in her reserve duty as Mobilization Assistant to the Chief of Public Affairs for the Secretary of the Air Force.

Ms. Nolta has given much to this Nation through her dedicated and selfless service. After graduation from her dream school—Virginia Tech—she answered the calling to join the Air Force and departed for Hahn Air Base in Germany. She started her career as an adjutant in a fighter squadron, was quickly recognized for her talent, and selected to serve as the 50th Tactical Wing Executive Officer. Her dedication and skills landed her in the 513th Airborne Command and Control Wing at Royal Air Force Mildenhall, England as a Command Post Controller and then Tactical Deception Plans Officer.

Identified as an excellent officer, Christy was handpicked to train new accessions as an instructor at the Officer Training School at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. It was during this assignment that Christy decided to continue to serve her country by transitioning into the Air Force Reserve. Her husband, Mike, was serving on active duty and Christy accompanied him on his assignments, continuing to balance motherhood, home, civilian, and reserve careers. After completing a five year extended active duty tour working for the Secretary of the Air Force, she decided to serve as an Air Force civilian as well as in the Air Force Reserve. She moved up the ranks within the Air Force Office of Communication, then later in Public Affairs.

In 2014, her incredible communications skills were put to good use when Christy became the Deputy Director in the Legislative Liaison Office and we all got to benefit from her hard work. Happily, on the military side, she kept one foot in the Public Affairs Office as a colonel serving as the mobilization assistant to the director. That combination served her brilliantly.

As Deputy Director of Legislative Liaison for the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, Christy supported Air Force leadership by engaging Congress on programs and weapon systems authorizations, constituent inquiries, and other congressional interests. Among some of her more notable accomplishments during her tenure as Deputy Director, Christy prepared the Air Force team for confirmation hearing for the Air Force Under Secretary and currently is working the confirmation hearing for the proposed next Chief of Staff of the Air Force. She also supported more than 1,000 Air Force senior leader visits to the Hill as well as over 400 wing commander Hill visits, more than 253 congressional delegation and congressional staff trips, over 200 congressional hearings, answering 7,474 constituent inquiries, and countless other Air Force Hill engagements.

Not only is Christy admired and respected within the Air Force, she is a role model to young women of all ages. Recently the Girl Scouts honored her with these sentiments, "For caring, guiding, and helping Girls Scouts through the years and for being a good role model for girls around the world—May 2015."

Christy's family service runs deep. Her father was career Army, her husband is retired Air Force, and two of their three children have

graduated from the United States Air Force Academy. Their third child became a Hokie like her mother and father, graduating from Virginia Tech.

In July, Colonel Nolta will retire from the Air Force Reserve with 30 years of faithful service in uniform. She will continue serving the Air Force in her civilian capacity. Today, I would like to wish Ms. Noel "Christy" Nolta good luck and Godspeed in her next assignment as the Deputy Director of Staff for the Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Congress and the United States of America, I thank Christy and her family for their unwavering service to the nation, and look forward to their continued success.

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FAA EXTENSION, SAFETY, AND  
SECURITY ACT OF 2016

SPEECH OF

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 11, 2016*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, five years ago we were in a similar situation with an FAA authorization coming to an end in the middle of the summer. That time we failed to act, causing the shutdown of the FAA. So while I wish we were doing more than this extension bill today, I am happy that we are not going to let a shutdown happen again.

Considering that this is only a short-term extension, this bill contains a number of good policy changes. The enhanced consumer protection measures, improvements in aviation security, and protections for general aviation pilots that are included are all the result of bipartisan cooperation. Third class medical reform is a long overdue victory for pilots. It is commonsense policy that will protect pilots' rights and promote the general aviation industry.

I have worked over the past year to ensure airline passengers are treated with fairness and respect. Simply put, if you pay for a service, you should get that service promptly or get your money back. During consideration of the House's FAA bill, I was a strong advocate for requiring that fees be refunded for baggage that was lost and delayed. While this bill does not go as far as I would have liked, it does require that passengers who don't get their luggage on time get their fee returned.

In addition, this bill works to minimize travelers' frustrations while simultaneously enhancing aviation security by expanding access to TSA PreCheck and optimizing the TSA workforce to improve long lines at security checkpoints. The bill will also make air travel more accessible for persons with disabilities, and will create a set of accessibility best practices for air carriers.

My main disappointment in this extension comes from the fact that a number of important, bipartisan priorities were not included even though they had been worked out in the bill that came through our committee earlier this year. Since work began to reauthorize the 2012 FAA bill, I have worked continuously to reform the aircraft certification process and was the lead Democratic cosponsor of the Small Airplane Revitalization Act in 2013. Streamlining the certification process will ac-

celerate getting products to market, ultimately strengthening job growth and stimulating economic activity. Aviation is an increasingly global marketplace. To compete in this arena, domestic manufacturers must certify their product with the FAA which often takes longer than is necessary. Then they have to work to facilitate acceptance of the equipment by the buyer's respective aviation authority. In recent years, American manufacturers have encountered significant delays during this process. These delays have serious economic consequences for the small and medium sized businesses that make up the multi-billion-dollar aviation supply chain.

The certification titles in the House and Senate FAA reauthorization bills are the product of bipartisan work of the committees and outreach to stakeholders. They address the current inefficiencies by driving certification and regulatory changes, requiring that the FAA be more closely involved in foreign markets, helping to gain expedited acceptance and validation of U.S. products and safety standards, and ultimately better utilizing scarce resources at the FAA and within the industry to enhance productivity. They not only advance safety, but also benefit our economy. We must ensure that the high tech U.S. manufacturing industry, and the skilled workforce it employs, are able to compete in the face of growing global competition.

So I was frustrated to learn that these bipartisan provisions, which directly translate to tangible economic benefits across the entire industry, were not included in this extension. The aviation industry needs stability to confidently allocate resources, make investments, and plan for the future. They rely on Congress to consistently provide that authority to the FAA. While I'm disappointed that these key priorities were not included, I hope that we can work quickly to find a way to pass the aircraft certification provisions in the near term.

Finally, there is a provision that was included that I have concerns about. This bill expands the look-back period for background checks and the list of offenses that would disqualify an individual from eligibility to work at an airport. We need to do all we can to increase security at airports. But I am deeply concerned that this provision was added into the extension outside the jurisdiction of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee seemingly at the last minute and without explanation or consultation with House Members.

Mr. Speaker, on the whole, this is a good bill. But much remains to be done. I hope that in the coming months we can continue working to pass a comprehensive long term FAA reauthorization to maintain America's leadership in the global aviation industry.

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RECOGNIZING STAFF SERGEANT  
EDWARD ANDERSON

**HON. SEAN P. DUFFY**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 12, 2016*

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to honor Staff Sergeant Edward Anderson, an Army veteran of World War II who survived four months as a prisoner of war.

Staff Sergeant Anderson entered his service in the Army and served in the 28th Division of