



Greetings fellow airport business enthusiasts,

North Carolina is by no accident the premier State in the Nation for aviation. *As the state that is "Forever First in Flight"*, more and more aerospace manufacturers find NC a great place to do business, more options are available each year for our citizens to fly from NC to anywhere in the world and an already robust personal aviation sector continues to expand. The support of legislators and everyone else involved in aviation is key to continued growth.

The North Carolina Airports Association (NCAA) is the organization representing commercial and general aviation airports, elected and appointed officials and the businesses involved in aviation. The Association's mission is to promote airports and aviation, advocate collectively on behalf of airports and encourage development of the aviation profession. As NCAA has aggressively taken an active posture in promoting the industry's benefit to the economic health and quality of life for North Carolinians, State funding has grown significantly over the past 5 years. Yet still there are many more needs. The next legislative session will begin January of 2023 and our representatives from Kilpatrick, Townsend & Stockton along with the NCAA Board will monitor proposed legislation always advocating for the benefit of all 72 NC public airports.

Below are legislative issues of interest to members. The topics range from land use to environment with none being more critical than capital funding for projects at airports. Members of the organization are encouraged to become involved and discuss these issues with your legislators.

NCAA Legislative Priorities for 2023

- Maintain/Grow Capital Funding for Airport Infrastructure and Debt Financing through continued growth of the North Carolina Airport Improvement Program (NCAIP).
- Maintain and continue to expand the intended flexibility of the NCAIP program that sets it apart from the rigid criteria of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA's) Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funding
- Promote Value of Aviation with Legislators & Staff
 - Highlight the Jobs, Economic Output, Taxes Generated and the High ROI of Airport Investments
- Represent Aviation Interests in Economic and/or Business Development Programs
 - Expand The North Carolina Department of Transportation's (NCDOT) Economic Development Program to Allow More Airports to Undertake Job Producing Projects
 - Create an Air Service Development Program that Incentivizes New Airline Service
 - Support funding hangar development at airports
- Advocate for Smart Growth, Zoning and Land Use Related Legislation Designed to Balance Airport/Aviation Safety and Local Community Needs
- Advocate for Workforce Development programs that ensure an adequate number of qualified and skilled candidates to meet the growing needs of airports and the entire aviation industry in NC

- Ensure Environmental Rule Making is Consistent
 - Ensure Polyfluorinated Substances/ Perfluorooctanoic Acids (PFAS/PFOA) Rulemaking Considers an approved replacement and availability for Aqueous Film Forming Foam (AFFF)
 - Consider AFFF Take Back/Buy Back Program for Airports and Structural Fire Departments similar to programs in Michigan and Massachusetts
 - Mitigate Airport Liability Associated with the Mandated Use of AFFF and PFAS/PFOA.
- Support Efforts to Ensure Appropriate Staffing at the NCDOT, Division of Aviation to Maintain Historically Responsive Provision of Services
- Advance Policies that Support the Licensure of Airport Authority Owned Vehicles as Local Government (Permanent Plates)
- Law Enforcement Jurisdiction for Airport LEOs
 - Airport LEOs Do Not have Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ), But Threats to Aviation Extend Beyond the Fence
 - Cannot be “Fixed” by Local Action
- Ground Transportation Issues to include Peer-to-Peer Carsharing Companies (Turo) and Transportation Network Companies (Lyft and Uber) that Impact Airport Revenue and Curbside Management
- Support Local Bills that Benefit Airports