

ALPA Government Affairs

A History of Success

Protecting Your Flying:

- ALPA stopped legislation that would have outsourced your flying to foreign airlines for delivering U.S. mail overseas.
- Through an all-out lobbying assault on Congress, ALPA blocked a 2006 DOT proposal that would have permitted foreign interests to control U.S. airlines.

Protecting Your Benefits:

- ALPA is lobbying for legislation in 2008 that would allow pilots whose defined benefit plans had been terminated to receive, at age 60, the full PBGC benefit guarantee that is payable to others at 65.
- ALPA ensured that companies could not make unilateral changes to pilot contracts and benefits plans as a result of the increase in the retirement age to 65, saving your families millions of dollars.
- ALPA successfully supported extending unemployment benefits for furloughed airline workers following the economic downturn post-9/11.
- ALPA led a successful seven-year campaign to prohibit states from taxing former residents' pension benefits—so-called “source taxation.”
- ALPA has stopped congressional attempts to tax your fringe benefits—including your airline pass privileges and employer-paid health care—countless times in the past 20 years.

Protecting You in the Workplace:

- ALPA persuaded Congress to require the TSA to move on expedited screening and crew access programs in the 9/11 Commission implementing bill, signed into law in August 2007.
- ALPA also led the effort to obtain legislation preventing the premature release of CVRs.
- ALPA killed many ill-conceived pilot-related proposals in Congress through the years, including:

- Preventing the FAA from randomly reviewing CVRs and FDRs—a move intended to “improve cockpit discipline”;
- Making pilot infractions of FARs subject to criminal penalties up to \$25,000 and/or one year imprisonment;
- Gutting the FAA/NASA Aviation Safety Reporting System.
- ALPA got Congress to remove the FAA from the Civil Penalties Program, giving pilots a fair process in pilot cases through the NTSB.
- ALPA has consistently fought legislative attempts to change the Railway Labor Act to favor management.
- ALPA blocked legislation by Senators McCain (R-AZ) and Lott (R-MS) to impose “baseball-style” binding arbitration during contract negotiations. This bill also would have eliminated the right to strike and diminished the role of the NMB in airline labor negotiations.