



IMPACT

Informed Membership Participation & Activism Communications Team



Minnesota IMPACT Leaders-

The AFA Government Affairs committee has requested our help in contacting Minnesota Congressman Kline and Michele Bachmann to tell them to sign on as a co-sponsors for our Airline Flight Crew Technical Corrections Act (HR2744). This is a time sensitive issue and phone calls to these legislators need to be completed by Friday March 15, 2008.

Please read the following letter from Camilla Wolkerstorfer MSP Council 95 Government Affairs Chair.

After reading the information we ask that you beginning calling your team, flying colleagues, and friends. Be creative in using various methods to get the word out; Feel free to call, talk to your flying partners and email the news.

Attached to this e-mail you will find background on the topic, contact information for the two congressmen and a telephone script. Please print out the bulletin and attachments and take them with you when you fly.

This is a very important piece of legislation that will have an effect on the quality of life of all flight attendants and it is vital that we give it our full support.

Todd A. Hurlbut

*Member Engagement/IMPACT Chair
Association of Flight Attendants-CWA
Northwest Master Executive Council*

Dear MN IMPACT Leaders,

We are at a crossroads in our efforts to achieve the number of co-sponsors needed in order to help pass HR2744 (House bill) and S2059 (Senate bill) The FMLA Airline Flight Crew Technical Corrections Act . Both of these bills will ensure that our members will be adequately credited for hours worked and qualify for FMLA as they were intended. At present we have 177+ co-sponsors on the House side. In order for us to be successful, we must achieve at least 291 co-sponsors on the House bill and well over 50 on the Senate bill. We need your help. Minnesota Congressman John Kline (R-MN) is on the committee that will debate the House bill and can be an influential voice when the bill is taken to the House floor for a vote. To date Mr. Kline has received hundreds of letters from his constituents in the 2nd district of MN, but he has yet to sign on. We are asking you to call members living in Mr. Kline's district and ask them to call his district office in Burnsville at 952 808-1213 or his Washington DC office at 202 225-2271. Ask them to use the attached script which they should have received from the AFA-CWA via email.

We are also asking all MN voters to call the offices Congressman Michele Bachmann at her district office in Woodbury at 651 731-5400 or her Washington DC office at 202-225-2331. They may follow the script provided or they may log onto nwaafa.org and click Government Affairs.

It is vital that these legislators hear from their constituents. Hearing from their constituents is the most effective way to have our voices heard.

Thank You for your activism

Camilla Wolkerstorfer

*MSP Council 95
Government Affairs Chair*

**Minnesota Voters Please Call And Ask these Congressmen to
Co-sponsor Hr2744
The Airline Flight Crew Technical Corrections Act**

John Kline

● **District Office:**

101 W. Burnsville Pkwy #201
Burnsville, MN 55337
Main: 952.808.1213
Fax: 952.808.1261

● **Washington, D.C. Office:**

1429 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Main: 202.225.2271
Fax: 202.225.2595

Michelle Bachmann

● **District Office:**

6043 Hudson Rd., Suite 330
Woodbury, MN 55125
Main: 651.731.5400
Fax: 651.731.6650

● **Washington, D.C. Office:**

412 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515
Main: 202.225.2331
Fax: 202.225.6475

Message:

The following is a script you may use when calling your Representatives.

“My name is _____ and I am calling as a voter in your state and flight attendant. I am asking that the Congressman co-sponsor Hr2744, the Airline Flight Crew Technical Corrections Act. This bill is a priority for all flight crewmembers, and for me. I would very much appreciate the Congressman’s support.” Again, tell the Congressman to “please co-sponsor HR 2744, Thank you.”

FMLA - Technical Corrections for Crew Members Act Background:

The FMLA Technical Corrections for Crew members Act was introduced in June, 2007 to clarify qualification requirements for flight attendants.

This legislation clarifies the intent of the FMLA as to qualification hours for flight attendants and pilots. Simply, the legislation says that anyone that has worked or been paid for 60% of their airline's monthly hour or trip guarantee, annualized over a 12 month period will qualify for FMLA. We strongly believe that this is in line with what was intended by the original legislation. The intent was that anyone who works 60% of a full time schedule will qualify. Unfortunately, judges and federal agencies have chosen to narrowly interpret the intent of the law and have applied the qualification requirements of the 40-hour, 9-5 workweek. Those "requirements" are not fair for those that work in the airline industry.

Congressional statements and report language from when the bill was considered and passed spell out that flight attendants were intended to be covered under the law and that the uniqueness of the airline industry and its hours must be taken into consideration. Unfortunately, that was ignored. This legislation will clarify that mistake.

What is the issue:

- We presently have to negotiate FMLA hours with management - we need to remove this issue from the bargaining table. Let's legislate not negotiate.**
- 12 weeks unpaid leave for those who work 60% of full time schedule over past year**
- The Fair Labor Standards Act used 9-5 (40 hr work week) 60% was 1248 rounded up to 1250 hrs. This equation does not work for FA's & Pilots**
- Time between flights (throughout day & on layovers) does not all count towards crewmember time at work, yet is based on Co. scheduling requirements**
- Pilots/FA's gone 4-5 days a week, but all these hrs don't count towards qualification**
- Reserves receive guarantee of hours per month, but airline only counts hours actually working a flight towards FMLA qualification**
- Hours spent on call at the airport are not fully counted**
- The formula for calculating FMLA qualification hours varies from airline to airline**
- AFA worked with ALPA, Unions from Southwest, American and Continental to create a formula that is fair for all FA's & Pilots**
- HR 2744 states and S2059 (Senate bill) that FA's and Pilots who work or have been paid for 60% of a full time schedule will qualify for FMLA**
- New bills clarify original intent of the law to the uniqueness of the airline industry**