



Creation of UAS Future Advisory Board

as part of the FAA Reauthorization Bill (Version 2.2 - June 9, 2017)

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Transformational Technology

As part of the FAA reauthorization bill, Travelers United urges Congress to authorize a UAS Future Advisory Board (UASFAB) to create vision of the national airspace system (NAS) that will safely open it to integration of unmanned aerial systems.

Unmanned aircraft systems (UASs) have the potential to affect consumers like few other transformational technologies ever have. For this technology to safely blossom in our national airspace, congressional direction is urgently needed.

Birth of UAS needs congressional vision

The birth of the UAV air traffic world will require congressional action and a mandate to look into the future. While the FAA has focused on regulation, Congress needs to signal a need for a vision of the future that will drive innovation and experimentation — the coming world where low-level UAVs may become as common as automobiles.

Just as we have a traffic management system with highways, local roads, traffic signage and signals, and enforcement for surface transportation, the US will need to develop a similar system for the NAS.

Travelers United is urging the creation of a UAS-FAB authorized to take a reasonable and educated look at the future. This independent group will focus on organization, operational safety, enforcement, innovation, and privacy.

These studies will shape the future of our aviation industry, stimulate innovation and knit together our country similar to the vision, planning and construction of the Interstate Highway System.

The genie is out of the bottle

UAS are already working in the commercial world taking photos of agricultural fields, orchards, utility lines, pipelines, sporting events, real estate, construction operations, deliveries, vovie making, news coverage, search and rescue and more.

Airbus has announced a flying car prototype and the Chinese are already testing these systems.

Visionary UAS Future Advisory Board should be a part of FAA bill

Congress should ask for a future vision of the UAV industry and its integration into the NAS. That study group outside of the FAA should look into the far future -- 10-20-30 years out as the numbers and sophistication of UASs proliferate.

This UASFAB board should examine:

- A new air traffic management system for low-level, small and medium UASs, plus anonymous flight rules (AFR) for full NAS integration.
- Possible bifurcation of the National Air Space into manned and unmanned elements -- allow the FAA (or a new ATO operation) to control manned and passenger aircraft; and a new entity to set rules for UAS operations using autonomous flight rules, outside designated airport areas and altitudes below 1,000 feet.
- A plan for rules that identify and limit altitudes of model aircraft and provide low-altitude AFR operation of commercial UAVs.
- An overview of UAV **privacy questions**
- Establishment of shared federal and state-and-local jurisdiction for enforcement of regulations.

Composition of UASFAB

Nine to eleven (9-11) members from the following groups:

FAA, NASA, Airline Pilots Group, Airlines, Academia, AIA, UAS manufacturers and operators, plus, consumers

Committee would report to Congress no later than September 2019 with suggested vision for nationwide UAS integration and operation.

The future is closer than any of us can imagine. Technology, once it is created and free for unfettered innovation, will surprise even today's experts. A Jetson-like UAV platform that can carry passengers, guided by GPS, equipped with sense-and-avoid technology and operate totally autonomously has already been announced and is being tested.