



Marion C. Blakey  
President and Chief Executive Officer

February 8, 2008

The Honorable Charles B. Rangel  
House Committee on Ways & Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Rangel:

On behalf of the 275 member companies we represent, the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) urges Congress to approve expeditiously pending free trade agreements (FTAs) with Colombia, Panama and Korea.

Aerospace companies lead the U.S. economy by maintaining a \$56.5 billion positive balance of trade, with U.S. aerospace exports totaling \$92.5 billion in 2007. Our industry exports 40 percent of our total production and as much as 70 percent of our civil aircraft production. Global markets and free trade therefore play a central role in supporting the vitality of our industry's 642,000 American production workforce.

U.S. leadership of the global economy also cannot be separated from our national security. Enhanced bilateral investment and increased trade will help the U.S. strengthen relationships with vital allies and partners throughout Latin America and Asia.

As such, we strongly encourage you to consider the economic and strategic importance of these pending agreements:

- **Colombia and Panama:** These Latin American FTAs will help nurture two democracies whose stability and economic prosperity are in the U.S. security and economic interest. The FTAs will also promote economic development throughout Latin America, cultivating increased demand for civil aviation infrastructure improvements and capacity expansion.
- **Korea:** This FTA will strengthen the U.S.-Korea bilateral relationship, underscoring the importance of U.S. engagement with and commitment to our allies in East Asia. In 2006, U.S. exports to Korea totaled \$32.5 billion, with American aerospace exports to Korea totaling \$3.46 billion.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge Congress to support passage of pending FTAs with Colombia, Panama and Korea.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Marion C. Blakey'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Marion C. Blakey

MCB/jgl



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President and Chief Executive Officer

February 8, 2008

The Honorable Jim McCrery  
House Committee on Ways & Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Ranking Member McCrery:

On behalf of the 275 member companies we represent, the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) urges Congress to approve expeditiously pending free trade agreements (FTAs) with Colombia, Panama and Korea.

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February 8, 2008

The Honorable Max Baucus  
Senate Committee on Finance  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-6200

Dear Chairman Baucus:

On behalf of the 275 member companies we represent, the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) urges Congress to approve expeditiously pending free trade agreements (FTAs) with Colombia, Panama and Korea.

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President and Chief Executive Officer

February 8, 2008

The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
Senate Committee on Finance  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-6200

Dear Ranking Member Grassley:

On behalf of the 275 member companies we represent, the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA) urges Congress to approve expeditiously pending free trade agreements (FTAs) with Colombia, Panama and Korea.

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