

### Proudly Representing the Flight Attendants of American Airlines

Office of the President

February 1, 2021

The Honorable Ned Lamont Governor of the State of Connecticut State Capitol 210 Capitol Avenue Hartford, Connecticut 06106

#### **Dear Governor Lamont:**

I write to you today out of a concern for the safety of Flight Attendants. Your great state is home to many American Airlines Flight Attendants, and additionally, flight crews from all over the country take off, land, and layover at your airports every day.

We all understand how the aviation industry could operate as a vector for COVID-19, so our industry has taken many precautions to ensure our passengers' safety. As Flight Attendants, we understand the responsibility that we share in slowing the spread of the virus.

With fire, medical, and security responsibilities on the airplane, we consider ourselves, first and foremost, safety professionals. Our members sounded the alarm on the coronavirus a year ago on our flights from Asia. And since then, we have served on the pandemic's frontlines, coming in contact with hundreds of people on an average workday. Flight Attendants have contracted COVID-19, and we have had a few tragic losses among our ranks. We worry that every time we step on an airplane, we are putting ourselves, our families, and the flying public at risk.

The Honorable Ned Lamont February 1, 2021 Page 2

I write to ask for your commitment to including Flight Attendants in the Tier 1B vaccine priority of distribution, as recommended by experts at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). We accept the risks involved in our high-contact profession, but we ask for respect and acknowledgment for these risks we are taking to keep our critical infrastructure moving. Ensuring that Flight Attendants have access to the vaccine would undoubtedly be that recognition.

If the traveling public is not confident that flight crews are healthy, any attempt to rebuild the economy will be hampered. To succeed with this rapid and complex vaccine distribution, we will need coordination at the federal and state levels. Aviation workers, the backbone of our air transportation system, must be healthy for our supply chains to flow and for the vaccine to be delivered across the country.

To this end, vaccines must be secured for crewmembers, who, by the very nature of our jobs, interact with hundreds of people in airports and airplanes in just a single workday. We recognize that vaccine supply is stretched thin right now, but we ask you in the strongest possible terms to immediately ensure we have access to the COVID-19 vaccine. Please put Flight Attendants and frontline aviation frontline workers in Tier 1B of your vaccination plan. Our economy depends on aviation, and the aviation industry depends on people feeling safe onboard our planes right now.

The 24,000 members of the Association of Professional Flight Attendants (APFA) thank you for your support, and we implore you to remember Flight Attendants as you evaluate your vaccine distribution plan. APFA is committed to protecting the safety of our members and our passengers, who trust us to transport them safely. I am available to you and your staff if you have any questions about the challenges Flight Attendants face and how we can make air travel safer in these uncertain times.

Sincerely,

Julie Hedrick

**National President** 

Association of Professional Flight Attendants

Amy Milenkovic

Uny Milenkovic

**BOS** Base President



### Proudly Representing the Flight Attendants of American Airlines

Office of the President

February 1, 2021

The Honorable Janet Mills Governor of the State of Maine 1 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333

Dear Governor Mills:

I write to you today out of a concern for the safety of Flight Attendants. Your great state is home to many American Airlines Flight Attendants, and additionally, flight crews from all over the country take off, land, and layover at your airports every day.

We all understand how the aviation industry could operate as a vector for COVID-19, so our industry has taken many precautions to ensure our passengers' safety. As Flight Attendants, we understand the responsibility that we share in slowing the spread of the virus.

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### Proudly Representing the Flight Attendants of American Airlines

Office of the President

February 1, 2021

The Honorable Chris Sununu Governor of the State of New Hampshire State House 107 North Main Street Concord, New Hampshire 03301

#### Dear Governor Sununu:

I write to you today out of a concern for the safety of Flight Attendants. Your great state is home to many American Airlines Flight Attendants, and additionally, flight crews from all over the country take off, land, and layover at your airports every day.

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February 1, 2021

The Honorable Phil Scott Governor of the State of Vermont 109 State Street, Pavilion Montpelier, Vermont 05609

Dear Governor Scott:

I write to you today out of a concern for the safety of Flight Attendants. Your great state is home to many American Airlines Flight Attendants, and additionally, flight crews from all over the country take off, land, and layover at your airports every day.

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### Proudly Representing the Flight Attendants of American Airlines

Office of the President

February 1, 2021

The Honorable Gina Raimondo Governor of the State of Rhode Island 82 Smith Street Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Dear Governor Raimondo:

I write to you today out of a concern for the safety of Flight Attendants. Your great state is home to many American Airlines Flight Attendants, and additionally, flight crews from all over the country take off, land, and layover at your airports every day.

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### Proudly Representing the Flight Attendants of American Airlines

Office of the President

February 1, 2021

The Honorable Daniel J. McKee Lieutenant Governor of the State of Rhode Island 82 Smith Street, Room 116 Providence, Rhode Island 02903

#### Dear Lieutenant Governor McKee:

I write to you today out of a concern for the safety of Flight Attendants. Your great state is home to many American Airlines Flight Attendants, and additionally, flight crews from all over the country take off, land, and layover at your airports every day.

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