Sustainable Aviation Fuel Act, H.R. 8769

AFC and its member companies applaud, Congresswoman Brownley (D, CA) for the introduction of legislation, “Sustainable Aviation Fuel Act”. A section by section for the bill can be found here.

The “Sustainable Aviation Fuel Act” includes the following policy options for consideration by Congress:

- Create a new blender’s tax credit for SAF, linked to carbon reductions.
- Authorize $1 billion in federal funding for U.S. projects that produce, transport, blend, or store SAF.
- Authorize $175 million in research funding to push the limits of existing SAF technology.
- Require the EPA to establish an aviation-only Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) similar to California’s successful transportation-wide LCFS.

If the bill is enacted, it would assist in boosting the nations’ airline economy, assist in job creation in rural areas where most of your SAF facilities are located, have a positive impact on climate change, and will grow the biobased economy.

Congresswoman Brownley serves on the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee on Aviation and said the following “Aviation alone contributes 9% to U.S. greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector and is therefore a critical target toward achieving our climate goals. Sustainable aviation fuel will go a long way to reducing aviation sector greenhouse gas emissions but it needs a focused federal response to make it a reality.”

Aviation-related emissions account for 2.6 percent of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions and nine percent of U.S. transportation sector emissions. The development of low-carbon technologies, such as electrification and fuel cells, is advancing quickly for surface transportation, but is just beginning in the aviation industry.

In the near term, aviation will continue to be dependent on liquid fuels. Sustainable aviation fuel (SAF) is a low-emission aviation fuel that can be blended with traditional jet fuel and used in existing aircraft engines. SAF has been certified by regulators as meeting safety requirements and has already been used in over 200,000 flights. SAF can reduce aviation emissions by at least 50 percent compared to conventional fossil jet fuels. Commercial-scale production of SAF is just beginning and needs a jumpstart from policy makers to meet the goals of the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis’s staff blueprint for climate action.