

Resolution # 14

FAA Needs to Complete Ramp Workers Safety Review

WHEREAS, TWU Convention Delegates know well that Ramp Workers' jobs are physically and mentally demanding. The jobs require constant focus and awareness in narrow corridors shared with aircraft, ground equipment, and physical infrastructure. Additionally, quick aircraft turnaround times require these workers to move quickly in loud environments that limit verbal communication; and

WHEREAS, while safely navigating this constantly changing work area, Ramp Workers are routinely subjected to extreme temperatures, adding strain to an inherently difficult job that can be dangerous, and in some tragic instances, deadly. Indeed, one of our own Local 513 union Brothers died in a ramp accident in Austin, Texas in July 2023; and

WHEREAS, alarmingly, there is no federal ramp safety standard to protect these workers; and

WHEREAS, the TWU and our partners across the transportation labor movement were able to cheer the passage of the bi-partisan 2024 FAA Reauthorization Act because it included enhancements of safety standards for airline workers and the flying public. One such important provision is a hard fought for mandate that the FAA initiate a safety review for Ramp Workers 180 days after the measure's enactment; and

WHEREAS, the review is intended to identify and correct gaps and daily risks faced by Ramp Agents whose work plays a crucial role in ensuring the safety and efficiency of commercial air travel. The review ensures that the workforce is well-informed and capable of responding to potential hazards on the job. The law also mandated a report to Congress on the results of the review and any recommendations for Congressional action; and

WHEREAS, as we meet here at this Convention, the essential review requirements of the Reauthorization Act have yet to be completed.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the delegates to the 27th Constitutional Convention of the Transport Workers Union of America, proudly recognize that unionized aviation workers have consistently prioritized aviation

safety and worker safety, upholding the highest safety standards in global aviation through their commitment and expertise; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the delegates here today urge the TWU leadership to work with other transportation labor unions and the AFL-CIO Transportation Trades Department to pressure the FAA, and its newly confirmed Administrator Bryan Bedford, to swiftly and deliberately finalize the Ramp Worker safety review and then to implement policies to keep preventable ramp accidents from occurring.