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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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SUBCOMMITTEES:
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ELECTIONS

April 25, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, D.C.20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Democratic Leader
H204, The Capitol
Washington, D.C.20515

The Honorable Sam Graves
Chairman
Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
2165 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rick Larsen
Ranking Member
Committee on Transportation & Infrastructure
2164 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Jeffries, Chair Graves, and Ranking Member Larsen:

As the Member of Congress who represents California's 35th Congressional District, which includes Ontario International Airport (ONT), I write with significant concerns about Boeing's aircraft and safety practices. On January 5, 2024, there was an incident with Alaska Airlines Flight 1282 that occurred on a Boeing aircraft, whose destination was Ontario International Airport. As a member of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development Subcommittee on Appropriations, I am deeply troubled by Boeing's ongoing aircraft safety issues and urge you to seek answers from Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Mr. David L. Calhoun.

Below are a few concerns regarding Boeing's 737 MAX aircrafts, safety practices, and their general response since the above-mentioned incident on January 5th, 2024:

1. 1/5/2024- Alaska Airlines Boeing 737 MAX 9 door plug flew off mid-flight.
2. 1/8/2024- Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) gave airlines authorization to begin inspections of all 171 737 MAX 9 planes worldwide. Inspections reviewed left and right cabin door exit plugs, door components and fasteners.
3. 2/21/2024- Boeing replaced Ed Clark, head of the 737 MAX program and manager of the company's production facility in Renton, WA.
4. 2/26/2024- A review of Boeing's practices by an independent panel convened by the FAA found a "disconnect between Boeing's senior management and other members of the organization on safety culture."
5. 3/4/2024- A United Airlines Boeing 737-900 returned to Houston after flames were seen coming out of the engine. Bubble wrap was ingested by the engine.

6. 3/7/2024- A United Airlines Boeing 777 lost a tire during take-off from San Francisco and safely landed in LA.
7. 3/8/2024- A United Airlines Boeing 737 MAX 8 slid off the runway while landing in Houston. It is unclear if this was caused by mechanical issues- there is news footage suggesting the landing gear collapsed.
8. 3/9/2024- Mr. John Barnett, a former quality manager for Boeing and whistleblower for safety concerns was found deceased in South Carolina on the third morning of deposition– calling into question our ability to receive his full testimony.
9. 3/13/2024- The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) revealed that Boeing overwrote security camera footage of repair work done on the door plug of the Alaska Airlines plane that experienced the blowout.
10. 04/07/2024 - An engine cowling fell off a Southwest Airlines Boeing 737-800 and struck a wing flap during takeoff from Denver International Airport.

I am extremely grateful that none of these flights had passengers that were severely injured. However, it is deeply disturbing that Boeing aircraft are having these many issues. The flying public in America has expressed a lack of confidence in Boeing's aircraft, which will affect the many millions of individuals who work in jobs connected to our aviation industry. With the concerns outlined above, I wrote to Boeing President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Mr. David L. Calhoun on January 10th, 2024, detailing my significant concerns and inviting him to meet with me to discuss them, and have yet to meet with him.

It is my hope that House Leadership and Leadership of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee call on Mr. Calhoun to testify before Congress to shed light on the unanswered questions and concerns surrounding Boeing, their safety practices, and the safety of the flying public while on their aircrafts. Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to continuing to work on this issue together.

Sincerely,



Norma J. Torres
Member of Congress