



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 10, 2025

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PRESS RELEASE

VAI Urges Confirmation of Bryan Bedford as FAA Administrator

Stable agency leadership needed to achieve ATC modernization.

Alexandria, Va. (Jun. 10, 2025) – Vertical Aviation International (VAI) urges the US Senate Commerce Committee to advance the nomination of Bryan Bedford as the next FAA administrator, and for the full Senate to confirm him without delay.

“The FAA has a monumental task ahead, and steady leadership is essential to carry out the long-overdue modernization of the US air traffic control network,” says Mike Hertzendorf, COO of VAI. “This moment demands a Senate-confirmed administrator with the authority and vision to drive innovation and enhance safety, while delivering a resilient and improved National Airspace System.”

Bedford, a seasoned aviation executive with decades of operational experience, brings a deep understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the aviation sector.

“Bryan Bedford has the leadership experience and industry insight to guide the FAA forward,” Hertzendorf says. “We call on the Senate to confirm his nomination swiftly and provide the FAA with the stable leadership it needs to meet today’s challenges and tomorrow’s opportunities.”

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Vertical Aviation International (VAI), formerly Helicopter Association International (HAI), is the world’s leading membership association dedicated to the vertical aviation industry, which encompasses all aircraft capable of vertical or short takeoff and landing. Throughout its 76 years of fueling industry growth through connection, advocacy, safety, education, and support for its members’ success, VAI has leveraged the power of vertical flight to strengthen communities worldwide. The association welcomes all facets of the vertical aviation industry, including manufacturers, operators, suppliers and vendors, pilots and maintenance technicians, and other aviation professionals. For more information about VAI, please visit: <https://verticalavi.org>.

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