



AFA-CWA GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

WORKING TO LEGISLATE FOR FLIGHT ATTENDANTS



One part of AFA is Government Affairs. Government Affairs is in place to advocate for the rights and safety of flight attendants. Committee members are real flight attendants going to Washington D.C. to lobby and have a voice in Congress and the process. Here are a few current legislative issues in which AFA is actively engaged:

✓ CARRY-ON BAGGAGE

AFA is working in Congress for a rule which will set a simple standard. We are asking Congress to urge the FAA to write and implement a strong carry-on baggage rule immediately.

✓ CELL PHONE USE ON AIRCRAFT

AFA is actively lobbying against the use of cell phones and PEDs inflight.

✓ FLIGHT ATTENDANT FATIGUE

Some carriers are taking advantage of a "rest provision" in the FAA's Flight Attendant Duty Time and Rest Regulations which allows the minimum 9 hours of rest reduced to 8. AFA is working to change the language.

✓ CREW INTERFERENCE

AFA was successful during the 106th Congress in increasing the penalty for interfering with crew from \$1,100 to \$25,000. The new law also gives local law enforcement officials the authority to detain abusive passengers. Prior to the legislation the abusive passenger could just walk away. AFA continues to work for more protection against crew assaults.

✓ FMLA (Family and Medical Leave Act)

AFA has always been a proponent of FMLA and has been working diligently with Congress for FMLA language that ensures all full-time flight attendants are covered.

✓ CHILD RESTRAINT SYSTEMS

AFA, carriers and consumer groups have been calling for the mandatory use of child restraint seats for over 15 years. AFA is continuing the effort to pass legislation that mandates the use of child restraint seats on aircraft.

✓ DRUG TESTING PROCEDURES

AFA, unquestionably, supports a drug-free workplace. It is AFA's goal to adopt a drug testing procedure that not only provides for a drug-free workplace, but that also includes the highest degree of procedural protections and safeguards for flight attendants. AFA wants the procedures to be based on the most current and accurate scientific and medical evidence.

✓ ERGONOMICS PROTECTION

Back injuries and carpal-tunnel syndrome caused by ergonomic hazards are big health and safety problems. They cause loss of productivity and huge cost to employee and employer. AFA strongly supports OSHA's ergonomics standard and is actively pursuing OSHA standards on aircraft.