



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 5, 2026

Donald J. Trump
The President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

I write to you to follow up on my letter from April 22, 2026, regarding the collapse of Spirit Airlines. In my prior letter, I underscored the potential pitfalls of allowing Spirit Airlines to collapse, including for travelers, Spirit Airlines staff, and the wider market including tens of thousands of jobs across the country that were supported by Spirit's operations.

The effects of this collapse are already being felt by Spirit Airlines staff, contractors, travelers, and airports across the nation. Spirit has already reported more than 4,000 jobs lost in Florida alone. Additionally, consumers will likely see further price increases across the nation, but especially in markets previously served by Spirit Airlines, which will hurt travelers, depress tourism, and drain businesses and Americans' bank accounts.

Now we must turn our attention to the people these developments will harm, and I would ask that you have your administration look at the following potential actions:

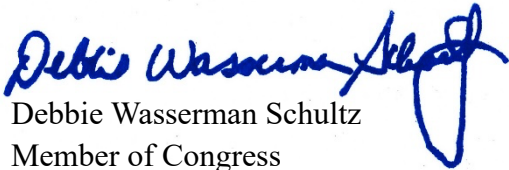
1. Through the Department of Justice and appropriate departments, ask the Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York, overseeing the Spirit Airlines' liquidation, to prioritize the full and timely payment of employee compensation and benefits, including medical, dental, and related benefits.
2. Maintain the healthcare plans for Spirit Airlines Flight Attendants, Pilots, and other groups of workers where possible, through the 2026 plan year, and help facilitate the transition to affordable health care and dental insurance for affected employees.
3. Direct the Department of Transportation to assist with the preferential hiring of Spirit employees for new opportunities with other air carriers.
4. Extend Flexible Spending Account (FSA) usage periods and provision of emergency childcare subsidies. Childcare will be a primary concern for laid-off staff as many airlines require extensive training programs which take place outside of an employee's duty station and to allow time for workers to complete interview and pre-offer tasks.

5. Provide a temporary supplement to State employment benefits for those laid-off staffers who are attempting to find new employment for a period of six months.
6. Have the Department of Labor surge resources to those whose jobs are eliminated by the collapse of Spirit Airlines for the purposes of finding new jobs in the aviation industry, accessing trainings, maintaining or expanding their certifications, and connecting with specialized career services.

Broward County is home to the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport, Spirit Airlines Headquarters, Port Everglades, and some of the best tourism attractions in South Florida – all of whom are being hurt by the news of Spirit Airlines' collapse. My core mission has always, and will continue to be, serving and protecting my constituents, bringing down travel costs, and supporting South Florida jobs.

Thank you for your attention to these important matters.

Sincerely,


Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress

CC:

The Honorable Sean Duffy, Secretary of Transportation
The Honorable Keith Sonderling, Acting Secretary of Labor