

September 27, 2011

**NATA Vice President Eric R. Byer's Inside Washington Blog Post -
It's Time To Petition Mr. Obama**

Last week, I offered [my thoughts on President Obama's latest effort to denigrate the general aviation industry with his new \\$100 flight fee](#). Little did we know someone was taking action into his own hands!

Last Friday, a gentleman from Iowa picked up on a new process recently announced by the White House that allows citizens of this great country to petition the White House on a specific issue. The petition, titled "[Take User Fees Off the Table](#)," was offered by Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) member Kevin Mossey of Marion, Iowa, and is part of the Obama administration's new "[We The People](#)" program. If a petition is able to generate 5,000 signatures within 30-days, "the White House staff will review it, ensure it's sent to the appropriate policy experts, and issue an official response."

Yesterday morning, there were only 40 or so signatures on the petition. As of this morning, thanks to AOPA and their announcement of this effort yesterday, the petition has more than 2,400 signatures.

I would encourage all NATA members and non-members alike to take advantage of this campaign (especially since it is from the White House and on our tax dollars) to let the President and his staff know that user fees are a non-starter! Let's push this petition over the 5,000 signature threshold by week's end!

To sign the petition, [visit the user fee petition page and then create an account](#). Once you receive the confirmation email from the White House, you can login and sign your name to the petition!

Happy petitioning!