

Questions for the Prime Minister on Pilots' complaints and air safety. Tabled in the House of Assembly Wednesday 12th May, 2010 by Fred Mitchell - PLP MP Fox Hill

- Given, the complaints from the pilots working for non Bahamasair airlines, is the government satisfied about the safety of the non Bahamasair services in The Bahamas: Sky, Cat Island Air, Pineapple, Southern, Lee, Western Air, Performance and the other Charter operations?
- Is the government actively following the labour situation with these non Bahamasair services: there are questions of violation of the labour laws re overtime work, also people are said to be forced to work beyond the mandated duty time of 14 hours.
- Is the government satisfied that given the expansion of these services to the Bahamian flying public that it has the resources and manpower to maintain a rigorous regulatory regime?
- Is the government aware of the extent to which foreign pilots are being used to substitute for Bahamian pilots and the complaint from Bahamian pilots that this is a safety concern and not necessary given that there is a surplus of Bahamian pilots available to fly, if the non Bahamasair airlines are willing to pay for the training to check off for the particular aircraft?
- Is the government aware of complaints from the pilots that unqualified persons have been flying in the right seat and that a complaint was made to the flight inspectorate and no action has been taken to deal with the complaint or at least not public action?
- Will the government say what is the finding of the flight inspectorate on the collapsed wheel of a Sky Bahamas aircraft occurred earlier in the year?
- Can the government agree to investigate the complaints of pilots of changing books to eliminate reports of snags made by pilots by one operator who I will not name but at least can we get an agreement from the government to speak with the pilots and investigate all of their concerns?