

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8589

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to provide vouchers to air carriers to purchase more fuel-efficient and quieter aircraft, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 13, 2020

Mr. ROUDA (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. CISNEROS, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, and Mr. RASKIN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Transportation to provide vouchers to air carriers to purchase more fuel-efficient and quieter aircraft, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Aviation Industry As-
5 sistance for Cleaner and Quieter Skies Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. AVIATION INDUSTRY ASSISTANCE FOR CLEANER**
7 **AND QUIETER SKIES VOUCHER PROGRAM.**

8 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish
9 and carry out a program, to be known as the “Aviation

1 Industry Assistance for Cleaner and Quieter Skies Vouch-
2 er Program”, under which the Secretary shall issue elec-
3 tronic vouchers to air carriers, subject to the specifications
4 set forth in subsection (d), to offset the purchase or cost
5 of a lease of eligible new aircraft in exchange for commit-
6 ments from such air carriers to decommission certain cur-
7 rently used aircraft and sell such aircraft for recycling of
8 parts or disposal.

9 (b) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for the program es-
10 tablished under subsection (a), an air carrier shall submit
11 to the Secretary an application at such time, in such man-
12 ner, and containing such information as the Secretary may
13 require, including a description of a currently used aircraft
14 of the air carrier.

15 (c) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—

16 (1) LIST OF ELIGIBLE AIRCRAFT.—In carrying
17 out the program established under subsection (a),
18 the Secretary, in consultation with the Adminis-
19 trator, shall prepare, maintain, publicize, and make
20 available through a publicly available website, lists
21 of—

22 (A) applicable currently used aircraft;

23 (B) eligible aircraft for purchase or lease;

24 and

1 (C) registered aircraft recycling firms eligi-
2 ble to purchase currently used aircraft under
3 this section.

4 (2) COMMITMENT REQUIREMENT.—In carrying
5 out the program established under subsection (a),
6 the Secretary shall issue such regulations as are nec-
7 essary to establish requirements for an air carrier to
8 purchase or lease an eligible aircraft described in
9 subsection (a), including a timing requirement for
10 the purchase of such, and decommissioning and sell-
11 ing of applicable currently used aircraft of the air
12 carrier for recycling of parts or disposal, except as
13 provided in subsection (f)(2).

14 (d) VALUE OF VOUCHERS.—The Secretary may de-
15 termine the value of each voucher, not to exceed
16 \$10,000,000, based on the difference in emissions between
17 the currently used aircraft being decommissioned and sold
18 and the eligible aircraft being purchased or leased. In de-
19 termining the value of each voucher, the Secretary shall
20 also consider if such eligible aircraft also include noise re-
21 duction, including whether such aircraft meet Stage 5
22 standards. In addition, the Secretary shall consider seat
23 capacity and typical stage length of both the currently
24 used aircraft being decommissioned and sold and the eligi-

1 ble aircraft being purchased or leased in determining the
2 value of the voucher.

3 (e) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after
4 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue
5 such regulations as are necessary to carry out this section,
6 including a requirement that a voucher may be used only
7 to pay a new aircraft order, not an order placed (even if
8 not filled) before the date of enactment of this Act.

9 (f) REGISTRATION.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall register
11 aircraft recycling firms eligible to purchase currently
12 used aircraft under this section and establish re-
13 quirements and procedures for the recycling of parts
14 or disposal of such aircraft to ensure that such air-
15 craft are taken out of service and not used to de-
16 velop other aircraft with higher greenhouse gas
17 emissions.

18 (2) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding paragraph
19 (1), in the case of an emergency declared by the Sec-
20 retary or a national emergency declared by the
21 President, the Secretary may temporarily waive the
22 provisions of such paragraph that prevent the use of
23 aircraft taken out of service pursuant to this section
24 for the purposes of responding to such emergency or
25 national emergency.

1 (g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to carry out the program established under this
3 section \$1,000,000,000 and such sums shall remain avail-
4 able until expended.

5 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section the following defi-
6 nitions apply:

7 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
8 trator” means the Administrator of the Environ-
9 mental Protection Agency.

10 (2) AIR CARRIER.—The term “air carrier” has
11 the meaning given such term in section 40102 of
12 title 49, United States Code.

13 (3) CURRENTLY USED AIRCRAFT.—The term
14 “currently used aircraft” means—

15 (A) aircraft in the bottom 25 percent of
16 the air carrier’s aircraft fleet in terms of fuel
17 efficiency per seat; and

18 (B) aircraft that have been in service for
19 at least 1,500 hours in the previous calendar
20 year.

21 (4) ELIGIBLE AIRCRAFT.—The term “eligible
22 aircraft” means aircraft that must be new and con-
23 sidered by the Secretary highly fuel-efficient with
24 some consideration given to their noise impact.

1 (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
2 the Secretary of Transportation.

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