

Calendar No. 282

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 66

To establish a task force on improvements for notices to air missions, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 25, 2023

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. MORAN, and Mrs. CAPITO) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

DECEMBER 13, 2023

Reported by Ms. CANTWELL, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

To establish a task force on improvements for notices to air missions, 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 “NOTAM Improvement
5 Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. FAA TASK FORCE ON NOTAM IMPROVEMENT.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
3 the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of
4 the Federal Aviation Administration shall establish a task
5 force to be known as the FAA Task Force on NOTAM
6 Improvement (in this section referred to as the “Task
7 Force”).

8 (b) COMPOSITION.—The Task Force shall consist of
9 members appointed by the Administrator, including at
10 least one member of each of the following:

11 (1) Air carrier representatives.

12 (2) Airport representatives.

13 (3) Labor union representatives of airline pilots.

14 (4) Labor union representatives of aircraft dis-
15 patchers.

16 (5) The labor union certified under section
17 7111 of title 5, United States Code, to represent
18 FAA air traffic control specialists assigned to the
19 United States NOTAMs Office.

20 (6) The labor union certified under section
21 7111 of title 5, United States Code, to represent
22 FAA aeronautical information specialists.

23 (7) General and business aviation representa-
24 tives.

25 (8) Aviation safety experts with knowledge of
26 NOTAMs.

1 (9) Human factors experts.

2 (10) Computer system architecture and cybersecurity experts.

3
4 (c) DUTIES.—The duties of the Task Force shall include—

5
6 (1) reviewing existing methods for presenting NOTAMs and flight operations information to pilots;

7
8 (2) reviewing regulations and policies relating to NOTAMs, including their content and presentation to pilots;

9
10
11 (3) evaluating and determining best practices to organize, prioritize, and present flight operations information in a manner that optimizes pilot review and retention of relevant information; and

12
13
14 (4) providing recommendations for—

15
16 (A) improving the presentation of NOTAM information in a manner that prioritizes or highlights the most important information, and optimizes pilot review and retention of relevant information;

17
18 (B) ways to ensure that NOTAMs are complete, accurate, and contain the proper information;

19
20 (C) any best practices that the FAA should consider to improve the accuracy and

1 understandability of NOTAMs and the display
2 of flight operations information;

3 ~~(D)~~ ways to work with air carriers, other
4 airspace users, and aviation service providers to
5 implement solutions that are aligned with the
6 recommendations under this paragraph; and

7 ~~(E)~~ ensuring the stability, resiliency, and
8 cybersecurity of the NOTAM computer system.

9 ~~(d)~~ REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
10 of the establishment of the Task Force, the Task Force
11 shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and In-
12 frastructure of the House of Representatives and the Com-
13 mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the
14 Senate a report detailing—

15 ~~(1)~~ the results of the reviews and evaluations of
16 the Task Force under paragraphs ~~(1)~~ through ~~(3)~~ of
17 subsection ~~(e)~~;

18 ~~(2)~~ the best practices identified and rec-
19 ommendations provided by the Task Force under
20 subsection ~~(e)~~(4);

21 ~~(3)~~ any recommendations of the Task Force for
22 additional regulatory or policy actions to improve the
23 presentation of NOTAMs; and

24 ~~(4)~~ the degree to which implementing the rec-
25 ommendations of the Task Force described under

1 paragraph (2) will address National Transportation
 2 Safety Board Safety Recommendation A-18-024.

3 (e) ~~APPLICABLE LAW.~~—The Federal Advisory Com-
 4 mittee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the Task
 5 Force.

6 (f) ~~SUNSET.~~—The Task Force shall terminate on the
 7 later of—

8 (1) the date on which the Task Force submits
 9 the report required under subsection (d); or

10 (2) the date that is 18 months after the date
 11 on which the Task Force is established under sub-
 12 section (a).

13 (g) ~~AUTHORITY.~~—The Administrator shall have the
 14 authority to carry out the recommendations of the Task
 15 Force detailed in the report required under subsection (d).

16 (h) ~~DEFINITIONS.~~—In this section:

17 (1) ~~FAA.~~—The term “FAA” means the Fed-
 18 eral Aviation Administration.

19 (2) ~~NOTAM.~~—The term “NOTAM” means no-
 20 tices to air missions required by international or do-
 21 mestic regulation or law, as described in FAA Order
 22 7930.2S.

23 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

24 *This Act may be cited as the “NOTAM Improvement*
 25 *Act of 2023”.*

1 **SEC. 2. FAA TASK FORCE ON NOTAM IMPROVEMENT.**

2 (a) *ESTABLISHMENT.*—Not later than 180 days after
3 the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the
4 Federal Aviation Administration shall establish a task force
5 to be known as the FAA Task Force on NOTAM Improve-
6 ment (in this section referred to as the “Task Force”).

7 (b) *COMPOSITION.*—The Task Force shall consist of
8 members appointed by the Administrator, including at least
9 one member of each of the following:

10 (1) *Air carrier representatives.*

11 (2) *Airport representatives.*

12 (3) *Labor union representatives of airline pilots.*

13 (4) *Labor union representatives of aircraft dis-*
14 *patchers.*

15 (5) *The labor union certified under section 7111*
16 *of title 5, United States Code, to represent FAA air*
17 *traffic control specialists assigned to the United*
18 *States NOTAMs Office.*

19 (6) *The labor union certified under section 7111*
20 *of title 5, United States Code, to represent FAA aero-*
21 *nautical information specialists.*

22 (7) *General and business aviation representa-*
23 *tives.*

24 (8) *Aviation safety experts with knowledge of*
25 *NOTAMs.*

26 (9) *Human factors experts.*

1 (10) *Computer system architecture and cyberse-*
2 *curity experts.*

3 (c) *DUTIES.—The duties of the Task Force shall in-*
4 *clude—*

5 (1) *reviewing existing methods for publishing*
6 *NOTAMs and flight operations information to pilots;*

7 (2) *reviewing regulations, policies, systems, and*
8 *international standards relating to NOTAMs, includ-*
9 *ing their content and presentation to pilots;*

10 (3) *evaluating and determining best practices to*
11 *organize, prioritize, and present flight operations in-*
12 *formation in a manner that optimizes pilot review*
13 *and retention of relevant information; and*

14 (4) *providing recommendations for—*

15 (A) *improving the publication and delivery*
16 *of NOTAM information in a manner that*
17 *prioritizes or highlights the most important in-*
18 *formation, and optimizes pilot review and reten-*
19 *tion of relevant information;*

20 (B) *ways to ensure that NOTAMs are com-*
21 *plete, accurate, timely, relevant to safe flight op-*
22 *erations, and contain pertinent information;*

23 (C) *any best practices that the FAA should*
24 *consider to improve the accuracy and under-*

1 *standability of NOTAMs and the display of*
2 *flight operations information;*

3 *(D) ways to work with air carriers, other*
4 *airspace users, and aviation service providers to*
5 *implement solutions that are aligned with the*
6 *recommendations under this paragraph; and*

7 *(E) ways to ensure the stability, resiliency,*
8 *and cybersecurity of the NOTAM computer sys-*
9 *tem.*

10 *(d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of*
11 *the establishment of the Task Force, the Task Force shall*
12 *submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastruc-*
13 *ture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on*
14 *Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a re-*
15 *port detailing—*

16 *(1) the results of the reviews and evaluations of*
17 *the Task Force under paragraphs (1) through (3) of*
18 *subsection (c);*

19 *(2) the best practices identified and rec-*
20 *ommendations provided by the Task Force under sub-*
21 *section (c)(4);*

22 *(3) any recommendations of the Task Force for*
23 *additional regulatory or policy actions to improve the*
24 *publication of NOTAMs; and*

1 (4) *the degree to which implementing the rec-*
2 *ommendations of the Task Force described under*
3 *paragraph (2) will address National Transportation*
4 *Safety Board Safety Recommendation A-18-024.*

5 (e) *APPLICABLE LAW.*—Chapter 10 of title 5, United
6 States Code, shall not apply to the Task Force.

7 (f) *SUNSET.*—The Task Force shall terminate on the
8 later of—

9 (1) *the date on which the Task Force submits the*
10 *report required under subsection (d); or*

11 (2) *the date that is 18 months after the date on*
12 *which the Task Force is established under subsection*
13 *(a).*

14 (g) *AUTHORITY.*—The Administrator shall have the
15 authority to carry out the recommendations of the Task
16 Force detailed in the report required under subsection (d).

17 (h) *RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.*—Nothing in this section
18 may be construed to require the FAA to duplicate any
19 prior, ongoing, or planned efforts related to the improve-
20 ment of NOTAMs, including any efforts related to imple-
21 menting any previously enacted requirements.

22 (i) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this section:

23 (1) *FAA.*—The term “FAA” means the Federal
24 Aviation Administration.

1 (2) *NOTAM.*—*The term “NOTAM” means a no-*
2 *tice containing information (which is not known suf-*
3 *ficiently in advance to publicize by other means) con-*
4 *cerning the establishment, condition, or change in*
5 *any component (including a facility, service, or pro-*
6 *cedure thereof) or hazard in the National Airspace*
7 *System, the timely knowledge of which is essential to*
8 *personnel concerned with flight operations.*

9 **SEC. 3. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.**

10 *Not later than September 30, 2024, the Administrator*
11 *of the Federal Aviation Administration shall make the fol-*
12 *lowing improvements:*

13 (1) *Complete implementation of a Federal*
14 *NOTAM System (in this section referred to as a*
15 *“FNS”).*

16 (2) *Implement a back-up system to the FNS.*

17 (3) *Brief the Committee on Transportation and*
18 *Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the*
19 *Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transporta-*
20 *tion of the Senate on a plan to enhance the capa-*
21 *bility to deliver information through the FNS that is*
22 *machine-readable, filterable, and in the format used*
23 *by the International Civil Aviation Organization*
24 *(ICAO) to promote further global harmonization*
25 *among neighboring Air Navigation Service Providers*

- 1 *(ANSPs) and provide users of the National Airspace*
- 2 *System with one consistent format for domestic and*
- 3 *international operations.*

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