

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4126

To amend title 49, United States Code, with respect to current and future electric power requirements of airports, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 14, 2023

Mr. MOLINARO (for himself and Mr. STANTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, with respect to current and future electric power requirements of airports, 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 “Future of Aviation
5 Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 Section 47102 of title 49, United States Code, is
8 amended—

9 (1) in paragraph (3)(P) by striking “improve
10 the reliability and efficiency of the airport’s power

1 supply” and inserting “improve reliability and effi-
2 ciency of the airport’s power supply or meet current
3 and future electrical power demand.”; and

4 (2) in paragraph (5) by inserting after subpara-
5 graph (C) the following:

6 “(D) assessing current and future elec-
7 trical power demand.”.

8 **SEC. 3. INCREASING THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF AIR-**
9 **PORTS AND MEETING CURRENT AND FUTURE**
10 **ELECTRICAL POWER DEMANDS.**

11 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 47140 of title 49, United
12 States Code, is amended to read as follows:

13 **“§ 47140. Meeting current and future electrical power**
14 **demand**

15 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation
16 shall establish a program under which the Secretary
17 shall—

18 “(1) encourage the sponsor of each public-use
19 airport to—

20 “(A) conduct airport planning that as-
21 sesses the airport’s—

22 “(i) current and future electrical
23 power requirements, including—

24 “(I) heating and cooling;

1 “(II) on-road airport vehicles, in-
2 cluding ground support equipment;

3 “(III) gate electrification; and

4 “(IV) electric aircraft charging;

5 and

6 “(ii) existing electrical infrastructure
7 condition, location and capacity, including
8 base load and backup power, to meet the
9 current and future electrical power demand
10 as identified in this subparagraph; and

11 “(B) conduct airport development to in-
12 crease energy efficiency or meet future electrical
13 power demands as identified in subparagraph
14 (A); and

15 “(2) reimburse the airport sponsor for the costs
16 incurred in conducting the assessment under para-
17 graph (1).

18 “(b) GRANTS.—The Secretary may make grants from
19 amounts made available under section 48103 to assist air-
20 port sponsors that have completed the assessment de-
21 scribed in subsection (a)(1)—

22 “(1) to acquire or construct equipment that will
23 increase energy efficiency at the airport; and

24 “(2) to pursue an airport development project
25 described in subsection (a)(1)(B).”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
2 ter 471 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by
3 striking the item relating to section 47140 and inserting
4 the following:

“47140. Meeting current and future electrical power demand.”.

5 **SEC. 4. ELECTRIC AIRCRAFT INFRASTRUCTURE PILOT**
6 **PROGRAM.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transportation
8 may establish a pilot program under which the sponsors
9 of public-use airports may use funds made available under
10 chapter 471 or section 48103 of title 49, United States
11 Code, for use at up to 10 airports to carry out—

12 (1) activities associated with the acquisition, by
13 purchase or lease, operation, and installation of
14 equipment to support the operations of electric air-
15 craft, including interoperable electric vehicle charg-
16 ing equipment; and

17 (2) the construction or modification of infra-
18 structure to facilitate the delivery of power or serv-
19 ices necessary for the use of electric aircraft, includ-
20 ing—

21 (A) on airport utility upgrades; and

22 (B) associated design costs.

23 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—A public-use airport is eligible for
24 participation in the pilot program under this section if the

1 Secretary finds that funds made available under sub-
2 section (a) would support—

3 (1) electric aircraft operators at such airport, or
4 using such airport; or

5 (2) electric aircraft operators planning to oper-
6 ate at such airport with an associated agreement in
7 place.

8 (c) SUNSET.—The pilot program established under
9 subsection (a) shall sunset 5 years after the date of enact-
10 ment of this Act.

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