

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 6050

To develop pilot grant programs through the Environmental Protection Agency to research and collect data on aircraft and airport noise and emissions and to use such information and data to develop a mitigation strategy, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 18, 2021

Mr. SMITH of Washington (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. MENG, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. BASS, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To develop pilot grant programs through the Environmental Protection Agency to research and collect data on aircraft and airport noise and emissions and to use such information and data to develop a mitigation strategy, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Aviation Noise and
3 Emissions Mitigation Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. NOISE AND AIR QUALITY MONITORING AND RE-**
5 **SEARCH GRANT PROGRAM.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
7 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the
8 Environmental Protection Agency in consultation with
9 Secretary of Transportation and other relevant Federal
10 agencies determined by the Administrator, shall establish
11 a 3-year pilot grant program with eligible entities to meas-
12 ure noise and emissions, including greenhouse gases, par-
13 ticulate matter, ultrafine particles, and other toxic pollut-
14 ants, in communities near airports or air flight pathways
15 using sophisticated methods and technology that allow
16 tracing of noise and emissions to specific sources such as
17 aircraft and airport related noise and emissions near such
18 communities, including identifying specific neighborhoods,
19 structures, or areas impacted by such noise and emissions.

20 (b) GRANT ACTIVITIES.—Recipients of grants under
21 subsection (a) shall—

22 (1) use technology capable of producing data
23 that can be used for wedge analysis to decipher the
24 sources of noise and emissions so communities may
25 better understand the primary contributors of noise
26 and emissions;

1 (2) make every reasonable effort to establish a
2 program that can be easily replicated across the
3 country with the goal of ongoing data collection and
4 monitoring in areas near airports or air flight path-
5 ways;

6 (3) produce neighborhood and ZIP code-level
7 data for a designated area to be used to determine
8 or predict the level and impact of noise and emis-
9 sions on certain neighborhoods and ZIP codes of
10 such area, and to identify frontline and dispropor-
11 tionately impacted communities;

12 (4) coordinate and regularly communicate with
13 the local clean air agency (or agencies, if applicable),
14 local public health departments, local metropolitan
15 planning organizations, Indian Tribal governments,
16 community based organizations, and other local gov-
17 ernment, State government, or non-profit entities as
18 the grantee determines useful to the project;

19 (5) work with community-based organizations,
20 some of which may be selected for a grant under
21 section 2, to assist in developing a mitigation abate-
22 ment strategy for communities, neighborhoods, or
23 areas impacted by aircraft or airport noise and emis-
24 sions;

1 (6) establish a clear plan for disseminating the
2 data and results of the program on an regular basis;
3 and

4 (7) consult initially and throughout the process
5 with the public and relevant community-based orga-
6 nizations or local governments on the design and
7 execution of the noise and emissions monitoring pro-
8 gram.

9 (c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An institution of higher
10 education or other non-profit research entity, health insti-
11 tution, or local government with demonstrated experience
12 in conducting either or both aviation noise or emissions
13 research is eligible to receive a grant under this section.
14 The Administrator may award not more than 6 awards
15 under this section.

16 (d) GRANT AWARD AMOUNT.—The Administrator
17 may award a grant under this section to an eligible entity
18 of not less than \$2,500,000 and not more than \$5,000,000
19 for the 3-year grant period.

20 (e) ANNUAL REPORT.—A grantee under the section
21 shall submit an annual report to the Administrator re-
22 garding the research conducted and any findings. The Ad-
23 ministrators shall make such reports publicly available.

1 **SEC. 3. MITIGATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES GRANT PRO-**
2 **GRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the
4 submission of the final annual report submitted under sec-
5 tion 1(e), the Administrator of the Environmental Protec-
6 tion Agency, in consultation with the Department of
7 Health and Human Services, Department of Transpor-
8 tation, or other relevant Federal agencies as determined
9 by the Administrator, shall establish a pilot grant program
10 to mitigate aircraft or airport noise and emissions, and
11 their impacts, in communities near airports and air flight
12 pathways.

13 (b) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—

14 (1) PRIORITY.—The Administrator shall
15 prioritize and provide guidance and technical assist-
16 ance to applicants applications that—

17 (A) focus on communities found to be dis-
18 proportionately impacted by aviation noise or
19 emissions identified in the research produced
20 under the section 1 grant;

21 (B) primarily benefit disadvantaged com-
22 munities and communities with a higher preva-
23 lence of diseases associated with environmental
24 exposures; and

1 (C) demonstrate community support and
2 involvement from affected communities in their
3 proposed program.

4 (2) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a
5 grant under this section, an applicant shall be a
6 local community-based non-profit organization, a
7 consortium of community-based non-profit organiza-
8 tions from a community that participated in the
9 noise and emissions monitoring program under sec-
10 tion 1, a local public health department, or a local
11 or Indian Tribal government. If the recipient is a
12 public health department or local or Indian Tribal
13 government, the recipient shall demonstrate commu-
14 nity support for the program and how it plans to
15 partner with at least 1 non-profit community-based
16 organization.

17 (3) MITIGATION STRATEGY.—An applicant shall
18 demonstrate in its application how the—

19 (A) research conducted under section 1 in-
20 forms its proposed project design;

21 (B) proposed project addresses environ-
22 mental or health disparities and the needs and
23 concerns of affected communities, disadvan-
24 taged communities, or other communities facing
25 environmental justice concerns, including how

1 the applicant used the Climate and Economic
2 Justice Screening Tool or other similar environ-
3 mental justice mapping tool to effectively target
4 mitigation strategies;

5 (C) applicant incorporated input from af-
6 fected communities in its proposed program,
7 demonstrated community support for the pro-
8 posed program, and has established a written
9 plan detailing how the applicant will maintain
10 ongoing engagement with the affected commu-
11 nities; and

12 (D) applicant intends to partner or coordi-
13 nate with relevant local organizations, govern-
14 ment entities, and service providers such as
15 local public health departments, Indian Tribal
16 governments, community health centers, and
17 local education authorities, depending on the
18 mitigation plan.

19 (4) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds under the grant
20 program shall be used to mitigate the impacts of air-
21 craft or airport noise and emissions on communities
22 near airports or air flight pathways, including estab-
23 lishing 1 or more of the following:

24 (A) Noise mitigation packages that may
25 include weatherization, retrofitting, or energy

1 efficiency upgrades that have noise reduction,
2 environmental, or health benefits for house-
3 holds, schools, or other facilities, prioritizing
4 low-income households and low-resourced com-
5 munities and facilities, and structures that are
6 less likely to be eligible for other similar Fed-
7 eral resources.

8 (B) Programs to promote environmental
9 and public health services in impacted commu-
10 nities, including programs that address the dis-
11 proportionate effects of climate change on envi-
12 ronmental justice communities.

13 (C) Health care services and environmental
14 and public health interventions that address un-
15 derlying impacts from airport noise and pollu-
16 tion on health and quality of life, especially in
17 children, vulnerable populations, disadvantaged
18 communities, and communities of color.

19 (5) DURATION.—A grant under this section
20 shall be not less than 3 years and not more than 5
21 years as determined appropriate by the Adminis-
22 trator.

23 (c) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

24 (1) AFTER 1ST YEAR.—One year after the
25 awarding of grants under this section, and annually

1 thereafter, the Administrator shall submit a report
2 to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and
3 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of
4 Representatives and the Committees on Environ-
5 ment and Public Works and Commerce, Science, and
6 Transportation of the Senate on the activities of the
7 grant programs to include—

8 (A) the services provided and their tar-
9 geted beneficiaries (including households,
10 schools, other facilities, children, adults, sen-
11 iors);

12 (B) the steps taken by the grantee to en-
13 gage the public and impacted communities dur-
14 ing execution of the grant;

15 (C) a breakdown of the areas served under
16 the grant and if and how such areas align with
17 locations identified under section 1; and

18 (D) aggregate information about the com-
19 munities, households, and individuals benefit-
20 ting from the services provided under the grant,
21 including a breakdown of the demographic in-
22 formation and socioeconomic status of individ-
23 uals and households.

24 (2) AFTER 3D YEAR.—Three years after award-
25 ing of the first grant under this section, the agency

1 shall submit a report to the congressional commit-
2 tees referred to in paragraph (1) to include—

3 (A) an assessment of the grant program’s
4 ability to meet its goal of mitigating airport and
5 aviation noise and emissions;

6 (B) potential lessons learned to inform fu-
7 ture efforts to address the impacts of noise and
8 emissions in communities near airports and air
9 flight pathways; and

10 (C) a review of how levels and impact of
11 noise and pollution from airports and air flight
12 pathways can be incorporated into the Climate
13 and Economic Justice Screening Tool or other
14 similar environmental justice mapping tool used
15 by the Government.

16 (3) INPUT IN REPORT.—The report under this
17 subsection shall be completed with input from grant-
18 ees and affected communities.

○