

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 2126

To limit the use of Department of Transportation aircraft for travel by the Secretary of Transportation or the Secretary's executive staff, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 22, 2023

Mr. SCHMITT introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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## A BILL

To limit the use of Department of Transportation aircraft for travel by the Secretary of Transportation or the Secretary's executive staff, 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 “Justification and Ex-  
5 amination of Transportation Staff’s Executive Travel  
6 Costs Act of 2023” or the “JETSET Costs Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. EXECUTIVE TRAVEL ON DEPARTMENT OF TRANS-**  
2 **PORTATION AIRCRAFT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Unless the Secretary determines  
4 that the cost of a flight to a destination on aircraft owned,  
5 operated, or maintained by the Department of Transpor-  
6 tation is at least 5 percent less than the cost of a flight  
7 on a commercial airline to the destination, neither the Sec-  
8 retary nor the Secretary’s executive staff shall travel to  
9 such destination on any aircraft owned, operated, or main-  
10 tained by the Department of Transportation.

11 (b) EXCEPTION.—Subsection (a) shall not apply in  
12 any case in which emergency travel is required and com-  
13 mercial service is unavailable after notifying the Inspector  
14 General of the Department of Transportation and the ap-  
15 propriate committees of Congress in writing not later than  
16 7 days after such emergency travel is completed.

17 (c) COST COMPARISON.—Not later than 180 days  
18 after the date of enactment of this section, the Adminis-  
19 trator shall revise Order 2500.36N to reflect the true cost  
20 of flight operations. When calculating per-seat costs of a  
21 flight, the Department of Transportation—

22 (1) shall be prohibited from charging different  
23 rates to non-Department of Transportation officials;  
24 and

25 (2) shall use the actual and full cost of a flight  
26 on aircraft owned, operated, or maintained by the

1 Department of Transportation when comparing such  
2 flight to any commercial alternative.

3 (d) REPORTING.—Not later than December 31 of cal-  
4 endar year 2023, and each calendar year thereafter, the  
5 Inspector General of the Department of Transportation  
6 shall submit a report to the appropriate committees of  
7 Congress that includes the following with respect to the  
8 calendar year:

9 (1) An itemization of each trip and flight in  
10 which the Secretary or the Secretary's executive  
11 staff traveled on aircraft owned, operated, or main-  
12 tained by the Department of Transportation.

13 (2) A justification for any trip and flight in-  
14 cluded in the itemization required by paragraph (1),  
15 including, for each such trip and flight, documenta-  
16 tion that the trip and flight was at least 5 percent  
17 less than the cost of a flight on a commercial airline  
18 to the destination involved.

19 (e) PROHIBITION ON PERSONAL OR POLITICAL  
20 USE.—Neither the Secretary nor the Secretary's executive  
21 staff shall travel on aircraft owned, operated, or main-  
22 tained by the Department of Transportation for any trip  
23 that involves personal or political activities.

24 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1           (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-  
2           trator” means the Administrator of the Federal  
3           Aviation Administration.

4           (2) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-  
5           GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-  
6           gress” means the Committee on Commerce, Science,  
7           and Transportation of the Senate and the Com-  
8           mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the  
9           House of Representatives.

10          (3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
11          the Secretary of Transportation.

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