

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4392

To require the Secretary of Defense to carry out a pilot program on the use of sustainable aviation fuel by the Department of Defense.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 14, 2022

Ms. DUCKWORTH introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Defense to carry out a pilot program on the use of sustainable aviation fuel by the Department of Defense.

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 “Reduce Our Military’s
5 Reliance on Foreign Fuel Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM ON USE OF SUSTAINABLE AVIA-**
7 **TION FUEL.**

8 (a) PILOT PROGRAM REQUIRED.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense
2 shall conduct a pilot program on the use of sustain-
3 able aviation fuel by the Department of Defense.

4 (2) DESIGN OF PROGRAM.—The pilot program
5 shall be designed to—

6 (A) identify any logistical challenges with
7 respect to the use of sustainable aviation fuel
8 by the Department;

9 (B) promote understanding of the technical
10 and performance characteristics of sustainable
11 aviation fuel when used in a military setting;
12 and

13 (C) engage nearby commercial airports to
14 explore opportunities and challenges to partner
15 on increased use of sustainable aviation fuel.

16 (b) SELECTION OF FACILITIES.—

17 (1) SELECTION.—

18 (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year
19 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
20 Secretary of Defense shall select not fewer than
21 two geographically diverse facilities of the De-
22 partment at which to carry out the pilot pro-
23 gram.

24 (B) ONSITE REFINERY.—Not fewer than
25 one facility selected under subparagraph (A)

1 shall be a facility with an onsite refinery that
2 is located in proximity to not fewer than one
3 major commercial airport that is also actively
4 seeking to increase the use of sustainable avia-
5 tion fuel.

6 (2) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—Upon the selection
7 of each facility under paragraph (1), the Secretary
8 shall submit to the Committees on Armed Services
9 of the Senate and the House of Representatives no-
10 tice of the selection, including an identification of
11 the facility selected.

12 (c) USE OF SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL.—

13 (1) PLANS.—For each facility selected under
14 subsection (b), not later than one year after the se-
15 lection of the facility, the Secretary shall—

16 (A) develop a plan on how to implement,
17 by September 30, 2028, a target of exclusively
18 using at the facility aviation fuel that is blended
19 to contain not less than 10 percent sustainable
20 aviation fuel;

21 (B) submit the plan developed under sub-
22 paragraph (A) to the Committees on Armed
23 Services of the Senate and the House of Rep-
24 resentatives; and

1 (C) provide to the Committees on Armed
2 Services of the Senate and the House of Rep-
3 resentatives a briefing on such plan that in-
4 cludes, at a minimum—

5 (i) a description of any operational,
6 infrastructure, or logistical requirements
7 and recommendations for the blending and
8 use of sustainable aviation fuel; and

9 (ii) a description of any stakeholder
10 engagement in the development of the
11 plan, including any consultations with
12 nearby commercial airport owners or oper-
13 ators.

14 (2) IMPLEMENTATION OF PLANS.—For each fa-
15 cility selected under subsection (b), during the pe-
16 riod beginning on a date that is not later than Sep-
17 tember 30, 2028, and for five years thereafter, the
18 Secretary shall require, in accordance with the re-
19 spective plan developed under paragraph (1), the ex-
20 clusive use at the facility of aviation fuel that is
21 blended to contain not less than 10 percent sustain-
22 able aviation fuel.

23 (d) CRITERIA FOR SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL.—
24 Sustainable aviation fuel used under the pilot program
25 shall meet the following criteria:

1 (1) Such fuel shall be produced in the United
2 States from domestic feedstock sources.

3 (2) Such fuel shall constitute drop-in fuel that
4 meets all specifications and performance require-
5 ments of the Department of Defense and the Armed
6 Forces.

7 (e) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the use of
8 sustainable aviation fuel at a facility under the pilot pro-
9 gram if the Secretary—

10 (1) determines such use is not feasible due to
11 a lack of domestic availability of sustainable aviation
12 fuel or a national security contingency; and

13 (2) submits to the congressional defense com-
14 mittees notice of such waiver and the reasons for
15 such waiver.

16 (f) FINAL REPORT.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—At the conclusion of the
18 pilot program, the Assistant Secretary of Defense
19 for Energy, Installations, and Environment shall
20 submit to the Committees on Armed Services of the
21 Senate and the House of Representatives a final re-
22 port on the pilot program.

23 (2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by para-
24 graph (1) shall include each of the following:

1 (A) An assessment of the effect of using
2 sustainable aviation fuel on the overall fuel
3 costs of blended fuel.

4 (B) A description of any operational, infra-
5 structure, or logistical requirements and rec-
6 ommendations for the blending and use of sus-
7 tainable aviation fuel, with a focus on scaling
8 up adoption of such fuel throughout the Armed
9 Forces.

10 (C) Recommendations with respect to how
11 military installations can leverage proximity to
12 commercial airports and other jet fuel con-
13 sumers to increase the rate of use of sustain-
14 able aviation fuel, for both military and non-
15 military use, including potential collaboration
16 on innovative financing or purchasing and
17 shared supply chain infrastructure.

18 (D) A description of the effects on per-
19 formance and operation of aircraft using sus-
20 tainable aviation fuel, including—

21 (i) if used, considerations of various
22 blending ratios and their associated bene-
23 fits;

1 (ii) efficiency and distance improve-
2 ments of flights using sustainable aviation
3 fuel;

4 (iii) weight savings on large transpor-
5 tation aircraft and other types of aircraft
6 with using blended fuel with higher con-
7 centrations of sustainable aviation fuel;

8 (iv) maintenance benefits of using
9 sustainable aviation fuel, including engine
10 longevity;

11 (v) the effect of the use of sustainable
12 aviation fuel on emissions and air quality;

13 (vi) the effect of the use of sustain-
14 able aviation fuel on the environment and
15 on surrounding communities, including en-
16 vironmental justice factors that are created
17 by the demand for and use of sustainable
18 aviation fuel by the Department of De-
19 fense; and

20 (vii) benefits with respect to job cre-
21 ation in the sustainable aviation fuel pro-
22 duction and supply chain.

23 (g) SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL DEFINED.—In
24 this section, the term “sustainable aviation fuel” means
25 liquid fuel that—

- 1 (1) consists of synthesized hydrocarbon;
- 2 (2) meets the requirements of ASTM Inter-
- 3 national Standard D7566 (or successor standard);
- 4 (3) is derived from biomass (as such term is de-
- 5 fined in section 45K(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue
- 6 Code of 1986), waste streams, renewable energy
- 7 sources, or gaseous carbon oxides; and
- 8 (4) is not derived from palm fatty acid dis-
- 9 tillates.

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