

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 787

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to study and report on the operational preparedness of air carriers for preparing for changing weather and other events related to changing conditions and natural hazards.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 14, 2023

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WELCH, and Mrs. FISCHER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To require the Comptroller General of the United States to study and report on the operational preparedness of air carriers for preparing for changing weather and other events related to changing conditions and natural hazards.

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 “Airline Operational
5 Resiliency Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. GAO STUDY AND REPORT ON THE OPERATIONAL**
2 **PREPAREDNESS OF AIR CARRIERS FOR PRE-**
3 **PARING FOR CHANGING WEATHER AND**
4 **OTHER EVENTS RELATED TO CHANGING**
5 **CONDITIONS AND NATURAL HAZARDS.**

6 (a) STUDY.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General
8 shall study and assess the operational preparedness
9 of air carriers for preparing for changing weather
10 and other events related to changing conditions and
11 natural hazards, including flooding, extreme heat,
12 changes in precipitation, storms, including winter
13 storms, coastal storms, tropical storms, and hurri-
14 canes, and fire conditions.

15 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—As part of the study re-
16 quired by paragraph (1), the Comptroller General
17 shall assess the following:

18 (A) The extent to which air carriers are
19 preparing for weather events and natural disas-
20 ters, as well as changing conditions and natural
21 hazards, that may impact air carriers' oper-
22 ational investments, staffing levels and safety
23 policies, mitigation strategies, and other resil-
24 iency planning.

25 (B) How the Federal Aviation Administra-
26 tion oversees air carriers' operational resilience

1 to storms and natural disasters, as well as
2 changing conditions.

3 (C) Steps the Federal Government and air
4 carriers can take to improve their operational
5 resilience to storms and natural disasters, as
6 well as changing conditions.

7 (b) BRIEFING AND REPORT.—

8 (1) BRIEFING.—Not later than 1 year after the
9 date of enactment of this section, the Comptroller
10 General shall brief the appropriate committees of
11 Congress on the study required by subsection (a), to-
12 gether with recommendations for such legislation
13 and administrative action as the Comptroller Gen-
14 eral determines appropriate.

15 (2) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after
16 the briefing required by paragraph (1) is provided,
17 the Comptroller General shall submit a report to the
18 appropriate committees of Congress on the study re-
19 quired by subsection (a), together with recommenda-
20 tions for such legislation and administrative action
21 as the Comptroller General determines appropriate.

22 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

23 (1) AIR CARRIER.—The term “air carrier” has
24 the meaning given that term in section 40102 of
25 title 49, United States Code.

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

7 (3) COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—The term
8 “Comptroller General” means the Comptroller Gen-
9 eral of the United States.

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