

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2870

To standardize and clarify the dimensions of carry-on baggage and personal items on air carriers.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 15, 2009

Mr. LIPINSKI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, 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 standardize and clarify the dimensions of carry-on baggage and personal items on air carriers.

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 “Securing Cabin Bag-
5 gage Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CARRY-ON BAGGAGE.**

7 (a) TSA REGULATIONS.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after
9 the date of enactment of this Act, and except as pro-

1 vided in subsection (c), the Secretary of Homeland
2 Security, acting through the Assistant Secretary,
3 Transportation Security Administration, shall issue
4 regulations to establish a limit on the size of bag-
5 gage and personal items allowed to be carried by a
6 passenger on board an aircraft.

7 (2) CARRY-ON BAGGAGE RESTRICTIONS.—Such
8 regulations shall require that each passenger may
9 bring only one carry-on bag and one personal item,
10 the dimensions of each, when loaded, shall not ex-
11 ceed 56 centimeters in length by 45 centimeters in
12 height by 25 centimeters in width (rounded to 22
13 inches by 18 inches (17.75) by 10 inches (9.85)).

14 (b) FAA REGULATIONS.—Not later than 60 days
15 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator
16 of the Federal Aviation Administration shall modify sec-
17 tion 121.589 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, to
18 require that the carry-on baggage program of each air car-
19 rier limits each passenger boarding an aircraft to not more
20 than one piece of carry-on baggage and one personal item
21 described in subsection (a). An air carrier may establish
22 smaller size limits for carry-on baggage and a personal
23 item than the limits set forth in this section.

24 (c) EXCLUSIONS FOR CARRY-ON BAGGAGE LIMITA-
25 TIONS.—The carry-on baggage and personal item limita-

1 tions established by the TSA and the FAA under this sec-
2 tion shall not apply to—

- 3 (1) a child safety seat for a child passenger;
- 4 (2) assistive devices for disabled passengers, in-
5 cluding wheelchairs, canes, and crutches;
- 6 (3) musical instruments;
- 7 (4) outer garments, including a coat and a hat;
- 8 and
- 9 (5) cockpit and cabin crew in uniform.

10 (d) NOTIFICATION.—

11 (1) TSA.—The TSA shall post on its Web site
12 and in plain view signs notifying passengers of the
13 Federal carry-on baggage and personal item limita-
14 tions at the check-in desk outside of the passenger
15 security screening checkpoint and at the passenger
16 security screening checkpoint.

17 (2) FAA.—The FAA shall provide notice of
18 carry-on baggage and personal item limitations to
19 each ticket purchaser and post such limitations on
20 its Web site, in appropriate passenger education sec-
21 tions.

22 (e) USE OF TEMPLATE.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months
24 after the date of the enactment of this Act, TSA
25 shall install and utilize a template with a maximum

1 depth and width that will prevent the conveyor belt
2 passage at each security checkpoint of carry-on bag-
3 gage or a personal item that exceeds the dimensions
4 set forth in subsection (a).

5 (2) CHECK-IN REQUIREMENT.—TSA represent-
6 atives shall require any passenger whose carry-on
7 baggage or personal item exceeds the maximum
8 length of the dimensions set forth in subsection (a)
9 to check such carry-on baggage or personal item.

10 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following defi-
11 nitions apply:

12 (1) The term “FAA” means the Federal Avia-
13 tion Administration.

14 (2) The term “passenger” means an individual
15 who boards an aircraft, including any child under
16 the age of 2 who boards an aircraft without regard
17 to whether or not a ticket for air transportation was
18 purchased for the child.

19 (3) The term “TSA” means the Transportation
20 Security Administration.

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