

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 4161

To authorize the transfer by the Secretary of the Navy to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center Commission in Huntsville, Alabama, of certain F-14 Tomcat aircraft.

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 23, 2026

Mr. SHEEHY (for himself and Mr. KELLY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services

---

## A BILL

To authorize the transfer by the Secretary of the Navy to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center Commission in Huntsville, Alabama, of certain F-14 Tomcat aircraft.

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 “Maverick Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. CONVEYANCE OF F-14D TOMCAT AIRCRAFT FROM**  
2 **THE NAVY TO THE U.S. SPACE AND ROCKET**  
3 **CENTER COMMISSION IN HUNTSVILLE, ALA-**  
4 **BAMA.**

5 (a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary of the Navy (in this  
6 section referred to as the “Secretary”) may convey, with-  
7 out consideration, to the U.S. Space and Rocket Center  
8 Commission in Huntsville, Alabama (in this section re-  
9 ferred to as the “Commission”), all right, title, and inter-  
10 est of the United States in and to 3 surplus F-14D Tom-  
11 cat aircraft (Bureau Numbers 164341, 164602, 159437),  
12 which are excess to the operational requirements of the  
13 Navy.

14 (b) **FORM OF CONVEYANCE.**—The conveyance under  
15 subsection (a) shall be made by means of a conditional  
16 deed of gift.

17 (c) **CONDITION OF AIRCRAFT.**—The aircraft being  
18 conveyed under subsection (a) do not have any capability  
19 for use as a platform for launching or releasing munitions  
20 or any other combat capability that it was designed to  
21 have.

22 (d) **CONDITIONS.**—The Secretary shall include in the  
23 instrument of conveyance of the aircraft under subsection  
24 (a)—

1           (1) a condition that the Secretary is not re-  
2           quired to repair or alter the condition of the aircraft  
3           before conveying ownership of the aircraft;

4           (2) a condition that the Secretary shall provide  
5           any maintenance and operations manuals that—

6                     (A) are specific to the F-14D aircraft; and

7                     (B) the Secretary has sufficient intellectual  
8           property rights to convey;

9           (3) a condition that the Secretary shall provide  
10          excess spare parts to make one of the F-14D air-  
11          craft flyable or able to complete a static display, pro-  
12          vided that any part transferred is from existing  
13          Navy stock, with no items being procured on behalf  
14          of the Commission; and

15          (4) a condition that the Secretary will not be  
16          responsible for transferring any additional parts or  
17          providing any additional support beyond what is  
18          stated in this section, during or after the conveyance  
19          of the aircraft.

20          (e) AGREEMENTS FOR RESTORATION AND OPER-  
21          ATION.—The Secretary may—

22                 (1) authorize the Commission to enter into  
23                 agreements with qualified nonprofit organizations  
24                 for the purpose of restoring and operating the air-  
25                 craft transferred under subsection (a) for public dis-

1       play, airshows, and commemorative events to pre-  
2       serve naval aviation heritage; and

3               (2) if the Secretary authorizes any such agree-  
4       ment, require such additional terms and conditions  
5       in the instrument of conveyance as appropriate to  
6       protect the interests of the United States.

7       (f) REVERTER UPON BREACH OF CONDITIONS.—The  
8       Secretary shall include in the instrument of conveyance  
9       of the aircraft under subsection (a)—

10              (1) a condition that the Commission shall oper-  
11       ate and maintain the aircraft in compliance with all  
12       applicable limitations and maintenance requirements  
13       imposed by the Administrator of the Federal Avia-  
14       tion Administration;

15              (2) a condition that the Commission shall not  
16       convey any ownership interest in, or transfer posses-  
17       sion of, the aircraft to another party without the  
18       prior approval of the Secretary; and

19              (3) a condition that if the Secretary determines  
20       at any time that the Commission has failed to com-  
21       ply with the conditions set forth in paragraphs (1)  
22       and (2), all right, title, and interest in and to the  
23       aircraft, including any repair or alteration of the air-  
24       craft, shall revert to the United States, and the

1 United States shall have the right of immediate pos-  
2 session of the aircraft.

3 (g) CONVEYANCE AT NO COST TO THE UNITED  
4 STATES.—The conveyance of an aircraft under subsection  
5 (a) shall be made at no cost to the United States. Any  
6 costs associated with such conveyance, costs of deter-  
7 mining compliance with terms of the conveyance, and costs  
8 of operation and maintenance of the aircraft conveyed  
9 shall be borne by the Commission.

10 (h) CLARIFICATION OF LIABILITY.—Notwithstanding  
11 any other provision of law, upon the conveyance of owner-  
12 ship of the aircraft under subsection (a), the United States  
13 shall not be liable for any death, injury, loss, or damage  
14 that results from any use of such aircraft by any person  
15 other than the United States.

16 (i) APPLICABLE LAW.—The transfer and use of the  
17 aircraft under subsection (a) is subject to all applicable  
18 Federal and State laws and regulations, including—

19 (1) the Arms Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2751 et  
20 seq.);

21 (2) the Export Control Reform Act of 2018 (50  
22 U.S.C. 4811 et seq.);

23 (3) International Traffic in Arms Regulations  
24 (22 CFR 120 et seq.);

- 1           (4) Export Administration Regulations (15  
2 CFR 730 et seq.);  
3           (5) Foreign Assets Control Regulations (31  
4 CFR 500 et seq.); and  
5           (6) chapter 37 of title 18, United States Code  
6 (commonly known as the “Espionage Act”).

○