

Calendar No. 193

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 582****[Report No. 119–82]**

To provide for the authorized use of Federal vehicle transportation by certain astronauts.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 13, 2025

Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. PETERS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

OCTOBER 20, 2025

Reported by Mr. CRUZ, without amendment

A BILL

To provide for the authorized use of Federal vehicle transportation by certain astronauts.

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 “Astronaut Ground
5 Travel Support Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PASSENGER CARRIER USE FOR ASTRONAUT TRANS-**
 2 **PORTATION.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter III of chapter 201 of
 4 title 51, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
 5 end the following:

6 **“§ 20150. Passenger carrier use for astronaut trans-**
 7 **portation**

8 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 “(1) GOVERNMENT ASTRONAUT; INTER-
 10 NATIONAL PARTNER ASTRONAUT; SPACE FLIGHT
 11 PARTICIPANT; SPACE SUPPORT VEHICLE.—The
 12 terms ‘government astronaut’, ‘international partner
 13 astronaut’, ‘space flight participant’, and ‘space sup-
 14 port vehicle’ have the meanings given such terms in
 15 section 50902.

16 “(2) MISSION.—The term ‘mission’ means an
 17 assignment to a space support vehicle of one or
 18 more—

19 “(A) government astronauts in the course
 20 of their employment; or

21 “(B) space flight participants.

22 “(3) OFFICIAL PURPOSE.—With respect to
 23 transportation, the term ‘official purpose’ means
 24 transportation necessary for post-mission activities,
 25 including medical research, monitoring, diagnosis,
 26 and treatment of a government astronaut or space

1 flight participant before receiving post-mission med-
2 ical clearance to operate a motor vehicle.

3 “(4) PASSENGER CARRIER.—The term ‘pas-
4 senger carrier’ means a passenger motor vehicle, air-
5 craft, boat, vessel, or other similar means of trans-
6 portation that is owned or leased by the United
7 States Government.

8 “(b) AUTHORITY.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may au-
10 thorize the use of a passenger carrier to transport
11 a government astronaut or space flight participant
12 between the residence of the individual and various
13 locations if—

14 “(A) such transportation is provided for an
15 official purpose; and

16 “(B) the Chief of the Astronaut Office has
17 approved, in writing, post-mission transpor-
18 tation of government astronauts and space
19 flight participants under this section.

20 “(2) MAINTENANCE, OPERATION, AND RE-
21 PAIR.—The Administrator may maintain, operate,
22 and repair one or more passenger carriers for the
23 purpose of providing transportation pursuant to the
24 authority provided in paragraph (1).

1 “(c) REIMBURSEMENT.—Transportation under sub-
2 section (b)(1) of an international partner astronaut or a
3 space flight participant who is not an employee of the
4 United States Government shall be subject to reimburse-
5 ment to the Treasury.

6 “(d) REGULATIONS.—The Administrator shall pro-
7 mulgate such regulations as are necessary to carry out this
8 section.

9 “(e) APPLICABILITY OF SECTION 1344 OF TITLE
10 31.—In carrying out subsection (b), the Administrator
11 may expend funds available to the Administration, by ap-
12 propriation or otherwise, notwithstanding section 1344(a)
13 of title 31.”.

14 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
15 for chapter 201 of title 51, United States Code, is amend-
16 ed by inserting after the item relating to section 20149
17 the following:

“20150. Passenger carrier use for astronaut transportation.”.

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