

BOTTLES AND BREASTFEEDING EQUIPMENT SCREENING
ENHANCEMENT ACT

JULY 10, 2025.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee, from the Committee on Homeland
Security, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 820]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Homeland Security, to whom was referred the
bill (H.R. 820) to amend the Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment
Screening Act to require hygienic handling of breast milk and baby
formula by security screening personnel of the Transportation Se-
curity Administration and personnel of private security companies
providing security screening, and for other purposes, having consid-
ered the same, reports favorably thereon without amendment and
recommends that the bill do pass.

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PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

H.R. 820, the “Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Enhancement Act,” amends existing law to improve the hygienic handling of breast milk, baby formula, and related feeding items during aviation security screening conducted by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and authorized private screeners. The bill requires the TSA Administrator to issue or update guidance within 90 days of enactment, and at least once every five years thereafter.

The legislation further directs the Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) Office of Inspector General (OIG) to conduct a one-time audit, within one year of enactment, to assess TSA’s compliance with the updated hygienic screening standards. This audit must also evaluate the impact of screening technologies such as bottled liquid scanners and provide data on the denial rate of covered items at airport checkpoints. The bill builds on the original “Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Act” and aims to improve the experience of traveling families without compromising aviation security.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

Families traveling through the United States’ commercial aviation system frequently encounter confusion, inconsistent screening procedures, and even health risks when carrying breast milk, formula, juice, or cooling accessories for infants and young children. Despite TSA guidance exempting these items from general liquid restrictions, numerous reports have surfaced of parents being told to discard expressed breast milk, submit to unsanitary screenings, or relinquish essential feeding supplies. Such practices not only cause emotional distress but can jeopardize the health and nutrition of infants during travel.

Parents have reported that TSA officers and contract screeners often lack adequate training in how to properly inspect medically necessary liquids and related equipment, such as bottles, ice packs, and breast pumps. In some cases, improper handling has introduced contamination risks or resulted in parents being separated from vital supplies. Inconsistent application of policies at different airports, and across various personnel, has contributed to public confusion and undermined trust in TSA procedures.

The TSA has taken some steps to improve the situation by issuing guidance and training materials. However, given the continued occurrence of problematic incidents, more durable and enforceable solutions are needed. H.R. 820 seeks to codify hygiene-focused standards and require systematic updates to screening procedures that reflect best practices in maternal and infant health.

Additionally, the bill introduces an important oversight component by requiring the DHS Inspector General to evaluate both TSA’s adherence to the updated protocols and the role that screening technologies play in the treatment of these items. This requirement ensures accountability and transparency, helping Congress assess whether policies are applied consistently and humanely across airports and screening environments. In striking a balance between aviation security and public health, H.R. 820 represents a

necessary update to the Federal government’s handling of a deeply personal and sensitive issue for millions of families.

HEARINGS

The Committee has not held a hearing that guided the development of this legislation in the 119th Congress. However, the bill reflects concerns raised through constituent outreach, stakeholder engagement, and oversight activities relating to TSA screening practices and the treatment of medically necessary liquids and infant feeding equipment at airport security checkpoints. The Committee’s ongoing review of aviation security policy and passenger experience informed the development and consideration of this legislation.

COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

The Committee met on Wednesday, April 9, 2025, a quorum being present, to consider H.R. 820 and ordered the measure to be favorably reported to the House by voice vote.

COMMITTEE VOTES

Clause 3(b) of rule XIII requires the Committee to list the recorded votes on the motion to report legislation and amendments thereto.

No recorded votes were requested during consideration of H.R. 820.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS

In compliance with clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII, the Committee advises that the findings and recommendations of the Committee, based on oversight activities under clause 2(b)(1) of rule X, are incorporated in the descriptive portions of this report.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE ESTIMATE, NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY, ENTITLEMENT AUTHORITY, AND TAX EXPENDITURES

With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII and section 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, and with respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII and section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee adopts as its own the estimate of any new budget authority, spending authority, credit authority, or an increase or decrease in revenues or tax expenditures contained in the cost estimate prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office.

H.R. 820, Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Enhancement Act			
As ordered reported by the House Committee on Homeland Security on April 9, 2025			
By Fiscal Year, Millions of Dollars	2025	2025-2030	2025-2035
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Increase or Decrease (-) in the Deficit	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	*	*	not estimated
Increases <i>net direct spending</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2036?	No	Statutory pay-as-you-go procedures apply?	No
		Mandate Effects	
Increases <i>on-budget deficits</i> in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2036?	No	Contains intergovernmental mandate?	No
		Contains private-sector mandate?	No
* = between zero and \$500,000.			

H.R. 820 would require the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to issue or update guidance to minimize the risk of contaminating breastmilk, baby formula, and related accessories during the passenger screening process at airports. The bill also would require the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security to audit that guidance.

According to information from the agency, TSA regularly updates its guidance for screening breastmilk and related items under current law. On that basis, CBO estimates that implementing that provision would not significantly affect the federal budget. Based on the cost of similar activities, CBO estimates that conducting the audit would cost less than \$500,000 over the 2025–2030 period; any related spending would be subject to the availability of appropriated funds.

On February 13, 2025, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 260, the Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Enhancement Act, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation on February 5, 2025. The two pieces of legislation are similar, and CBO’s estimates of their budgetary effects are the same.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Aaron Krupkin. The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Director of Budget Analysis.

PHILLIP L. SWAGEL,
Director, Congressional Budget Office.

FEDERAL MANDATES STATEMENT

The Committee adopts as its own the estimate of Federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995.

DUPLICATIVE FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Pursuant to clause 3(c) of rule XIII, the Committee finds that H.R. 820 does not contain any provision that establishes or reauthorizes a program known to be duplicative of another Federal program.

STATEMENT OF GENERAL PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII, the objective of H.R. 820 is to amend the Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Enhancement Act by requiring the TSA Administrator to revise the guidance on handling medically necessary liquids, such as formula or breast milk, with the goal of minimizing the risk of contamination.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, AND LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

In compliance with rule XXI, this bill, as reported, contains no congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of rule XXI.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

No advisory committees within the meaning of section 5(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act were created by this legislation.

APPLICABILITY TO THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that H.R. 820 does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodation within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS OF THE LEGISLATION

Section 1. Short title

This section provides the short title of the legislation as the “Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Enhancement Act.”

Section 2. Hygienic handling of breast milk and baby formula during aviation security screening

This section amends the “Bottles and Breastfeeding Equipment Screening Act” (Public Law 114–293) by adding two new sections.

Section 3. Hygienic handling of breast milk and baby formula during aviation screening

This new section requires the TSA Administrator to issue or update screening guidance within 90 days of enactment, and every five years thereafter, to ensure the hygienic handling of breast milk, infant formula, purified deionized water, juice, and associated cooling accessories such as ice packs and gel packs. The guidance must be developed in consultation with nationally recognized maternal health organizations and applies to TSA personnel and any private security screeners operating under TSA’s authority. The guidance must include standards for minimizing contamination

during initial screening and any necessary re-screening or additional testing.

Section 4. Inspector General audit

This new section directs the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security to conduct an audit within one year of enactment to assess compliance with the updated hygienic standards. The audit must also evaluate the effects of various screening technologies, including bottled liquid scanners, on the treatment of covered items. Additionally, the audit must include data on the rate at which breast milk, formula, juice, and cooling accessories are denied entry into sterile areas of airports, as defined by TSA regulations (in section 1540.5 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations). The results of the audit must be submitted to the House Committee on Homeland Security and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3(e) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (new matter is printed in italics and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

**BOTTLES AND BREASTFEEDING EQUIPMENT
SCREENING ACT**

* * * * *

**SEC. 3. HYGIENIC HANDLING OF BREAST MILK AND BABY FORMULA
DURING AVIATION SECURITY SCREENING.**

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this section and every five years thereafter, if appropriate, the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration shall issue or update, as the case may be, guidance to minimize the risk for contamination of any breast milk, baby formula, purified deionized water for infants, and juice (as well as ice packs, freezer packs, frozen gel packs and other accessories required to cool breast milk, baby formula, and juice) that is subject to re-screening or otherwise subject to additional screening. Such guidance shall—

- (1) be developed in consultation with nationally recognized maternal health organizations;*
- (2) ensure adherence to hygienic standards, as established by the Administrator, in consultation with nationally recognized maternal health organizations;*
- (3) ensure that, when any such re-screening or additional screening requires additional testing, such testing so adheres to such standards, to so minimize such risk; and*
- (4) apply to security screening personnel of the Administration and personnel of private security companies providing security screening pursuant to section 44920 of title 49, United States Code.*

SEC. 4. INSPECTOR GENERAL AUDIT.

Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section, the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security

shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report containing an audit of compliance with the requirements of sections 2 and 3. Such audit shall also include information relating to the effect of various types of screening technologies, including bottled liquid scanners, on the screening of breast milk, baby formula, purified deionized water for infants, and juice (as well as ice packs, freezer packs, frozen gel packs and other accessories required to cool breast milk, baby formula, and juice) that is subject to re-screening or otherwise subject to additional screening, and the rate at which such items are denied entry into the sterile area (as such term is defined in section 1540.5 of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations).

