

108TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 5054

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to carry out a pilot program to evaluate the use of hardened containers for cargo and luggage on passenger aircraft.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 9, 2004

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to carry out a pilot program to evaluate the use of hardened containers for cargo and luggage on passenger 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 “Hardened Containers
5 for Air Cargo Security Act of 2004”.

6 **SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM TO EVALUATE USE OF HARDENED**
7 **CONTAINERS ON PASSENGER AIRCRAFT.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than 180
9 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary

1 of Homeland Security shall carry out a pilot program to
2 evaluate the use of hardened containers for cargo and lug-
3 gage on passenger aircraft to minimize the potential ef-
4 fects of an explosive device.

5 (b) GUIDELINES.—In carrying out the pilot program,
6 the Secretary shall develop guidelines for use by air car-
7 riers in determining the types of cargo and luggage to be
8 placed in a hardened container on a passenger aircraft.

9 (c) INCENTIVE PROGRAM.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—As part of the pilot pro-
11 gram, the Secretary shall carry out an incentive pro-
12 gram to provide assistance to air carriers to test the
13 use of hardened containers for cargo and luggage on
14 passenger aircraft.

15 (2) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the incentive
16 program, at a minimum, shall be—

17 (A) to test the function and interaction of
18 the hardened containers with other components
19 of the aviation security system;

20 (B) to determine the quantity of hardened
21 containers required in air carrier operations;

22 (C) to identify issues in logistics and con-
23 trol associated with use of the hardened con-
24 tainers and their possible solutions; and

1 (D) to identify training and maintenance
2 requirements associated with use of the hard-
3 ened containers.

4 (3) APPLICATIONS.—To be eligible to partici-
5 pate in the incentive program, an air carrier shall
6 submit to the Secretary an application that is in
7 such form and contains such information as the Sec-
8 retary requires.

9 (4) TYPES OF ASSISTANCE.—Assistance pro-
10 vided by the Secretary to air carriers under the in-
11 centive program may include the use of hardened
12 containers and financial assistance to cover in-
13 creased costs to the carriers associated with use and
14 maintenance of the containers, including increased
15 fuel costs.

16 (d) ADMINISTRATION BY TSA.—The Secretary shall
17 carry out the pilot program acting through the Adminis-
18 trator of the Transportation Security Administration.

19 (e) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date
20 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to
21 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of
22 the House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-
23 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report
24 on the results of the pilot program.

1 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
2 authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section
3 \$1,700,000. Such sums shall remain available until ex-
4 pended.

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