

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2732

To require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to promulgate regulations to prohibit the use of certain portable electronic devices in the cockpit of commercial aircraft during flight and to conduct a study of the safety impact of distracted pilots.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 5, 2009

Mr. MENENDEZ introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to promulgate regulations to prohibit the use of certain portable electronic devices in the cockpit of commercial aircraft during flight and to conduct a study of the safety impact of distracted pilots.

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 “Focused Flying Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. RESTRICTION ON USE OF PORTABLE ELECTRONIC**
2 **DEVICES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Flight crew members on a com-
4 mercial aircraft are prohibited from using any portable
5 electronic device while in the cockpit of such aircraft dur-
6 ing flight except for—

7 (1) uses that are directly related to flight oper-
8 ations or safety;

9 (2) the collection of data in connection with
10 safety; or

11 (3) other purposes approved by the Federal
12 Aviation Administration.

13 (b) DEFINED TERM.—In this section, the term “dur-
14 ing flight” means the period beginning at the time a com-
15 mercial aircraft leaves the gate at the airport of origin
16 and ending at the time the aircraft arrives at the gate
17 at the destination airport.

18 (c) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 6 months after the
19 date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of
20 the Federal Aviation Administration, exercising the au-
21 thority provided under section 44701(a)(5) of title 49,
22 United States Code, shall promulgate regulations to en-
23 force the restriction set forth in subsection (a).

24 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The restriction set forth in
25 subsection (a) shall take effect on the date on which the
26 regulations are issued pursuant to subsection (c).

1 **SEC. 3. STUDY.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal
3 Aviation Administration shall review relevant air carrier
4 data and carry out a study—

5 (1) to identify common sources of distraction
6 for the cockpit flight crew on commercial aircraft;
7 and

8 (2) to determine the safety impacts of such dis-
9 tractions.

10 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the date
11 of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall sub-
12 mit a report to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and
13 Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on
14 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-
15 resentatives that contains—

16 (1) the findings of the study conducted under
17 subsection (a); and

18 (2) recommendations about ways to reduce dis-
19 tractions for cockpit flight crews.

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