

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1710

To require Amtrak to propose a pet policy that allows passengers to transport domesticated cats and dogs on certain Amtrak trains, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 14, 2013

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

A BILL

To require Amtrak to propose a pet policy that allows passengers to transport domesticated cats and dogs on certain Amtrak trains, and for other purposes.

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 “Pets on Trains Act
5 of 2013”.

6 **SEC. 2. AMTRAK POLICY FOR PASSENGERS TRANSPORTING**
7 **DOMESTICATED CATS AND DOGS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the
9 date of the enactment of this Act, Amtrak shall propose

1 a pet policy that allows passengers to transport domes-
2 ticated cats or dogs on certain trains operated by Amtrak.

3 (b) PET POLICY.—In the proposal required under
4 subsection (a), Amtrak shall—

5 (1) designate, where feasible, at least one car of
6 each passenger train that is comprised of more than
7 one car in which a ticketed passenger may transport
8 a domesticated cat or dog in the same manner as
9 carry-on baggage if—

10 (A) the cat or dog is contained in a pet
11 kennel;

12 (B) the pet kennel can be stowed in ac-
13 cordance with Amtrak size requirements for
14 carriage of carry-on baggage;

15 (C) the passenger is ticketed for traveling
16 a distance less than 750 miles; and

17 (D) the passenger pays a fee described in
18 subsection (c); and

19 (2) allow ticketed passengers to transport do-
20 mesticated cats or dogs in the same manner as cargo
21 if—

22 (A) the cat or dog is contained in a pet
23 kennel;

1 (B) the pet kennel can be stowed in ac-
2 cordance with Amtrak requirements for cargo
3 stowage;

4 (C) the passenger is ticketed for traveling
5 a distance less than 750 miles;

6 (D) the cargo area is temperature con-
7 trolled in a manner protective of dog and cat
8 health; and

9 (E) the passenger pays a fee described in
10 subsection (c).

11 (c) FEE COLLECTION.—Under the pet policy de-
12 scribed in subsection (b), Amtrak shall collect a fee for
13 each cat or dog transported by a ticketed passenger in
14 an amount that, at a minimum, covers the costs of admin-
15 istration of the policy.

16 (d) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—

17 (1) SERVICE ANIMALS.—The proposal required
18 under subsection (a) shall be separate from and in
19 addition to the policy governing Amtrak passengers
20 traveling with service animals. Nothing in this sec-
21 tion may be interpreted to limit or waive the rights
22 of passengers to transport service animals.

- 1 (2) ADDITIONAL TRAIN CARS.—Nothing in this
2 section may be interpreted to require Amtrak to add
3 additional train cars or modify existing train cars.

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