

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2769

To require the Federal Aviation Administration to establish minimum standards for space for passengers on passenger aircraft.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 7, 2016

Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. SCHATZ, and Ms. WARREN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To require the Federal Aviation Administration to establish minimum standards for space for passengers 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. REGULATIONS RELATING TO SPACE FOR PAS-**
4 **SENGERS ON AIRCRAFT.**

5 (a) MORATORIUM ON REDUCTIONS TO AIRCRAFT
6 SEAT SIZE.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the
7 enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Federal
8 Aviation Administration shall prohibit any air carrier from

1 reducing the size, width, padding, or pitch of seats on pas-
2 senger aircraft operated by the air carrier, the amount of
3 leg room per seat on such aircraft, or the width of aisles
4 on such aircraft.

5 (b) REGULATIONS RELATING TO SPACE FOR PAS-
6 SENGERS ON AIRCRAFT.—Not later than 180 days after
7 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator
8 shall prescribe regulations—

9 (1) establishing minimum standards for space
10 for passengers on passenger aircraft, including the
11 size, width, padding, and pitch of seats, the amount
12 of leg room per seat, and the width of aisles on such
13 aircraft for the safety, health, and comfort of pas-
14 sengers; and

15 (2) requiring each air carrier to prominently
16 display on the website of the air carrier the amount
17 of space available for each passenger on passenger
18 aircraft operated by the air carrier, including the
19 size, width, padding, and pitch of seats, the amount
20 of leg room per seat, and the width of aisles on such
21 aircraft.

22 (c) CONSULTATIONS.—In prescribing the regulations
23 required by subsection (b), the Administrator shall consult
24 with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration,
25 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, passenger

1 advocacy organizations, physicians, and ergonomic engi-
2 neers.

3 (d) AIR CARRIER DEFINED.—In this section, the
4 term “air carrier” means an air carrier (as defined in sec-
5 tion 40102 of title 49, United States Code) that trans-
6 ports passengers by aircraft as a common carrier for com-
7 pensation.

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