

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2798

To amend title 49, United States Code, to terminate the essential air service program, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 13, 2016

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

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to terminate the essential air service program, 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 “Free Market Flights
5 Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. TERMINATION OF ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE PRO-**
7 **GRAM.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 417 of
9 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
10 end the following:

1 **“§ 41749. Termination of essential air service pro-**
 2 **gram**

3 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The authority of the Secretary
 4 of Transportation to carry out the essential air service
 5 program under this subchapter shall terminate on October
 6 1, 2016.

7 “(b) USE OF FEES FOR DEFICIT REDUCTION.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal years beginning
 9 after September 30, 2016, amounts credited to the
 10 account established under section 45303 from over-
 11 flight fees authorized under section 45301(a)(1) that
 12 would otherwise be made available under section
 13 41742 for obligation and expenditure to carry out
 14 the essential air service program under this sub-
 15 chapter shall be deposited in the general fund of the
 16 Treasury and shall be used for the sole purpose of
 17 deficit reduction.

18 “(2) STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Paragraph
 19 (1) shall apply notwithstanding any provision of sec-
 20 tion 45303(c) that directs the amounts described in
 21 paragraph (1) to be made available for expenditure
 22 for activities of the Federal Aviation Administra-
 23 tion.”.

24 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
 25 ter 417 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by

- 1 inserting after the item relating to section 41748 the fol-
- 2 lowing:

“41749. Termination of essential air service program.”.

