

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1733

To require the Secretary of Transportation to revise regulations relating to oversold flights to prohibit the forcible removal of passengers from such flights, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 3, 2017

Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Transportation to revise regulations relating to oversold flights to prohibit the forcible removal of passengers from such flights, 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 “Customers Not Cargo
5 Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON FORCIBLE REMOVAL OF PAS-**
2 **SENGERS FROM OVERSOLD FLIGHTS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Trans-
5 portation shall revise the regulations under part 250 of
6 title 14, Code of Federal Regulations—

7 (1) to prohibit an air carrier from forcibly re-
8 moving a passenger from an aircraft after boarding
9 because the air carrier oversold the flight or to pro-
10 vide a passenger seat to an employee of the air car-
11 rier;

12 (2) to establish standards for resolving
13 oversales once an aircraft has been boarded through
14 the provision of escalating incentives to passengers
15 to encourage voluntary rebooking; and

16 (3) to require an air carrier, to the extent prac-
17 ticable, to resolve issues related to overselling a
18 flight before boarding the flight.

19 (b) EXCEPTIONS.—In revising the regulations as re-
20 quired by subsection (a), the Secretary shall consider pro-
21 viding for exceptions to those regulations for—

22 (1) a medical emergency; or

23 (2) a circumstance that poses a threat to the
24 safety of the flight.

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