

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2244

To create opportunities for women in the aviation industry.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 18, 2017

Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. DUCKWORTH) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce,
Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To create opportunities for women in the aviation industry.

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 “Promoting Women in
5 the Aviation Workforce Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Women make up over 50 percent of the na-
9 tional workforce, but are significantly underrep-
10 resented in the aviation industry. Women represent
11 only 2 percent of airline mechanics, 4 percent of

1 flight engineers, 5 percent of repairmen, 26 percent
2 of air traffic controllers, 18 percent of flight dis-
3 patchers, and 6 percent of pilots.

4 (2) Twelve percent of students enrolled in
5 AABI-accredited programs are women.

6 (3) Women have made tremendous contribu-
7 tions to aviation while under steep adversity. Coura-
8 geous women like Blanche Scott, Amelia Earhart,
9 Bessie Coleman, Ada Brown, and so many others
10 paved the way for women in aviation and engineer-
11 ing. Their leadership shall be valued and remem-
12 bered as we continue to grow the influence of women
13 in aviation.

14 (4) Programs like the annual “Girls in Aviation
15 Day” established by Women in Aviation Inter-
16 national in September 2015 help young women be
17 introduced to the different opportunities that are
18 open to women in the aviation and aerospace indus-
19 try. Support for these efforts will go a long way in
20 supporting women’s aspirations in these fields.

21 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING WOMEN IN AVIA-**
22 **TION.**

23 It is the sense of Congress that the aviation industry
24 should explore all opportunities, including pilot training,
25 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics edu-

1 cation, and mentorship programs, to encourage and sup-
2 port female students and aviators to pursue a career in
3 aviation.

4 **SEC. 4. SUPPORTING WOMEN’S INVOLVEMENT IN THE AVIA-**
5 **TION FIELD.**

6 (a) **ADVISORY BOARD.**—To encourage women and
7 girls to enter the field of aviation, the Administrator of
8 the Federal Aviation Administration shall create and fa-
9 cilitate the Women in Aviation Advisory Board (referred
10 to in this section as the “Board”), with the objective of
11 promoting organizations and programs that are providing
12 education, training, mentorship, outreach, and recruit-
13 ment of women into the aviation industry.

14 (b) **COMPOSITION.**—The Board shall consist of mem-
15 bers whose diverse background allows them to contribute
16 balanced points of view and ideas regarding the strategies
17 and objectives set forth in section 4(f).

18 (c) **SELECTION.**—Not later than 9 months after the
19 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall ap-
20 point members of the Board, including representatives
21 from the following:

22 (1) Major airlines and aerospace companies.

23 (2) Nonprofit organizations within the aviation
24 industry.

25 (3) Aviation business associations.

1 (4) Engineering business associations.

2 (5) United States Air Force Auxiliary, Civil Air
3 Patrol.

4 (d) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT.—Members shall be
5 appointed to the Board for the duration of the existence
6 of the Board.

7 (e) COMPENSATION.—Board members shall serve
8 without compensation.

9 (f) DUTIES.—Not later than 18 months after the
10 date of enactment of this Act, the Board shall present a
11 comprehensive plan for strategies the Administration can
12 take, which include the following objectives:

13 (1) Identifying industry trends that directly or
14 indirectly discourage women from pursuing careers
15 in aviation, including—

16 (A) possible differences between women
17 minority groups; and

18 (B) possible differences between women
19 who live in rural, suburban, and urban areas.

20 (2) Coordinating the functions of airline compa-
21 nies, nonprofit organizations, and aviation and engi-
22 neering associations to facilitate support for women
23 pursuing careers in aviation.

1 (3) Creating opportunities to expand existing
2 scholarship opportunities for women in the aviation
3 industry.

4 (4) Enhancing aviation training, mentorship,
5 education, and outreach programs that are exclusive
6 to women.

7 (g) REPORTS.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
9 the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator
10 shall submit a report to—

11 (A) the Committee on Transportation and
12 Infrastructure of the House of Representatives
13 and

14 (B) the Committee on Commerce, Science,
15 and Transportation of the Senate.

16 (2) AVAILABILITY ONLINE.—The Administrator
17 shall make the report publicly available online and in
18 print.

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