

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4256

To amend title 49, United States Code, to establish acceptable formats for presentation of airman certificates to the Federal Aviation Administration.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 26, 2026

Mr. SHEEHY (for himself and Mr. KIM) 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 establish acceptable formats for presentation of airman certificates to the Federal Aviation Administration.

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 “Airmen Certificate Ac-
5 cessibility Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF CERTIFICATION.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 44703 of title 49, United
8 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
9 lowing:

1 “(m) SUFFICIENCY OF DIGITAL AND PHYSICAL AIR-
2 MAN CERTIFICATES.—An individual issued a certificate
3 pursuant to this section (including a medical certificate)
4 may present such certificate to an inspector of the Federal
5 Aviation Administration in any of the following formats:

6 “(1) A physical certificate issued by the Admin-
7 istrator (or his or her designee).

8 “(2) A digital certificate issued by the Adminis-
9 trator that is stored on an electronic device or, in
10 areas where there is sufficient connectivity to do so,
11 a cloud-based system, and presented in accordance
12 with authentication and verification requirements es-
13 tablished by the Administrator.”.

14 (b) RULEMAKING.—Not later than November 30,
15 2028, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Adminis-
16 tration shall issue a final rule to update regulations in
17 parts 61, 63, 65, 67, and 107 of title 14, Code of Federal
18 Regulations, to implement the amendment made by this
19 section, and any applicable guidance and policies.

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