

entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Przedsiębiorstwo Doswiadczalno-Produkcyjne Szybownictwa 'PZL-Bielsko' Model SZD-50-3 'Puchacz' Gliders" ((RIN2120-AA64)(Docket No. 2007-CE-100)) received on July 7, 2008; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7023. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Franklin, PA" ((RIN2120-AA66)(Docket No. 07-AEA-19)) received on July 7, 2008; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7024. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Milford, PA" ((RIN2120-AA66)(Docket No. 08-AEA-13)) received on July 7, 2008; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7025. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Transportation (Administration), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the inventories of commercial and inherently governmental positions in the Department; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-7026. A communication from the Regulatory Ombudsman, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Hours of Service of Drivers" (RIN2126-AB14) received on July 7, 2008; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. DORGAN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

H.R. 65. A bill to provide for the recognition of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 110-409).

By Mr. HARKIN, from the Committee on Appropriations, without amendment:

S. 3230. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 110-410).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. SMITH (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 3228. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit for green roofs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 3229. A bill to increase the safety of the crew and passengers in air ambulances; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HARKIN:

S. 3230. An original bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. KERRY:

S. 3231. A bill to amend the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act

and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to improve the conservation of sharks; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 3232. A bill to authorize and request the President to award the Medal of Honor to James Megellas, formerly of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, and currently of Colleyville, Texas, for acts of valor on January 28, 1945, during the Battle of the Bulge in World War II; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BINGAMAN:

S. 3233. A bill to promote development of a 21st century energy system to increase United States competitiveness in the world energy technology marketplace, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 34

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 34, a bill to promote simplification and fairness in the administration and collection of sales and use taxes.

S. 43

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 43, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to preserve and protect Social Security benefits of American workers and to help ensure greater congressional oversight of the Social Security system by requiring that both Houses of Congress approve a totalization agreement before the agreement, giving foreign workers Social Security benefits, can go into effect.

S. 439

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 439, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation.

S. 604

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 604, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to limit increases in the certain costs of health care services under the health care programs of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes.

S. 826

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 826, a bill to posthumously award a Congressional gold medal to Alice Paul, in recognition of her role in the women's suffrage movement and in advancing equal rights for women.

S. 991

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 991, a bill to establish the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation under the authorities of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961.

S. 1376

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1376, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and expand the drug discount program under section 340B of such Act to improve the provision of discounts on drug purchases for certain safety net providers.

S. 1689

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1689, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income amounts received on account of claims based on certain unlawful discrimination and to allow income averaging for backpay and frontpay awards received on account of such claims, and for other purposes.

S. 1748

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1748, a bill to prevent the Federal Communications Commission from repromulgating the fairness doctrine.

S. 1906

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1906, a bill to understand and comprehensively address the oral health problems associated with methamphetamine use.

S. 1907

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1907, a bill to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to understand and comprehensively address the inmate oral health problems associated with methamphetamine use, and for other purposes.

S. 1926

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1926, a bill to establish the National Infrastructure Bank to provide funding for qualified infrastructure projects, and for other purposes.

S. 1998

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1998, a bill to reduce child marriage, and for other purposes.

S. 2051

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Colorado

(Mr. SALAZAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2051, a bill to amend the small rural school achievement program and the rural and low-income school program under part B of title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

S. 2059

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2059, a bill to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to clarify the eligibility requirements with respect to airline flight crews.

S. 2140

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2140, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Francis Collins, in recognition of his outstanding contributions and leadership in the fields of medicine and genetics.

S. 2173

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2173, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve standards for physical education.

S. 2283

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2283, a bill to preserve the use and access of pack and saddle stock animals on public land administered by the National Park Service, and Bureau of Land Management, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, or the Forest Service on which there is a historical tradition of the use of pack and saddle stock animals.

S. 2510

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2510, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide revised standards for quality assurance in screening and evaluation of gynecologic cytology preparations, and for other purposes.

S. 2576

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2576, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit for qualified expenditures paid or incurred to replace certain wood stoves.

S. 2682

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2682, a bill to direct United States funding to the United Nations Population Fund for certain purposes.

S. 2702

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2702, a bill to amend title

XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to, and increase utilization of, bone mass measurement benefits under the Medicare part B Program.

S. 2760

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2760, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to enhance the national defense through empowerment of the National Guard, enhancement of the functions of the National Guard Bureau, and improvement of Federal-State military coordination in domestic emergency response, and for other purposes.

S. 2771

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2771, a bill to require the President to call a White House Conference on Children and Youth in 2010.

S. 2858

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2858, a bill to establish the Social Work Reinvestment Commission to provide independent counsel to Congress and the Secretary of Health and Human Services on policy issues associated with recruitment, retention, research, and reinvestment in the profession of social work, and for other purposes.

S. 2932

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2932, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the poison center national toll-free number, national media campaign, and grant program to provide assistance for poison prevention, sustain the funding of poison centers, and enhance the public health of people of the United States.

S. 3114

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3114, a bill to provide safeguards against faulty asylum procedures, to improve conditions of detention for detainees, and for other purposes.

S. 3118

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3118, a bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to preserve beneficiary access to care by preventing a reduction in the Medicare physician fee schedule, to improve the quality of care by advancing value based purchasing, electronic health records, and electronic prescribing, and to maintain and improve access to care in rural areas, and for other purposes.

S. 3141

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 3141, a bill to provide for nondiscrimination by eligible lenders in the Federal Family Education Loan Program.

S. 3164

At the request of Mr. MARTINEZ, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3164, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reduce fraud under the Medicare program.

S. 3167

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. 3167, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the conditions under which veterans, their surviving spouses, and their children may be treated as adjudicated mentally incompetent for certain purposes.

S.J. RES. 43

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 43, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to marriage.

S. RES. 602

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 602, a bill supporting the goals and ideals of "National Life Insurance Awareness Month".

S. RES. 607

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 607, a resolution designating July 10, 2008, as "National Summer Learning Day".

AMENDMENT NO. 4979

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4979 intended to be proposed to S. 3001, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 5009

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 5009 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3221, a bill to provide needed housing reform and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 5010

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr.

ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 5010 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3221, a bill to provide needed housing reform and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 5064

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 5064 proposed to H.R. 6304, a bill to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to establish a procedure for authorizing certain acquisitions of foreign intelligence, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 5066

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 5066 proposed to H.R. 6304, a bill to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to establish a procedure for authorizing certain acquisitions of foreign intelligence, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED
BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SMITH (for himself and
Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 3228. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit for green roofs; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill to provide a residential and commercial tax credit for the installation of green roofs. I am pleased to have my colleague Senator CANTWELL join me in this effort by serving as original cosponsor of this bill.

The bill creates a tax credit for the installation of green roofs on residential and commercial property. On the residential side, the credit is 30 percent of the cost of installing a green roof, with a cap of \$2,000. On the commercial side, the credit is 10 percent of the cost installing a green roof, without a cap. In my home state of Oregon, the city of Portland utilizes green roofs extensively. To date, the city has installed or plans to install over 100 green roofs.

Green roofs provide many environmental and cost benefits. One of the more significant benefits provided by green roofs is stormwater management and energy savings. When it rains, water washes over roofs, streets, driveways, sidewalks, parking lots, and other surfaces. Rain water picks up pollutants, such as oil, pesticides, metals, chemicals, and soil. The polluted stormwater then drains into the storm system that eventually makes it way into our rivers and streams. The pollutants can endanger water quality of lakes, rivers, streams and waterways, making them unhealthy for people, fish, and wildlife. During rainstorms, green roofs act as a sponge, absorbing

much of the water that would otherwise run off. The roofs serve as a natural rainwater filter by utilizing the vegetation root system's natural filtering processes. The benefit of this process increases as the vegetation on the rooftop matures.

In addition to the storm water benefits, green roofs also absorb air pollution, collect airborne particulates, store carbon, provide living environments that provide habitats for birds, insects and other small animals, reduce outside noise transfer and insulate buildings from high temperatures.

I believe that we have a responsibility to encourage efforts to conserve our natural resources. Oregon continues to build on a long history of innovation in environmental policy and practice. We urge our colleagues to support this important piece of legislation.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 3229. A bill to increase the safety of the crew and passengers in air ambulances; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to ask for my colleagues' support for the Air Medical Service Safety Improvement Act of 2008, a measure that redefines our commitment to improving the safety for the flight crews, flight nurses, and passengers aboard emergency air medical service helicopters and fixed wing aircraft.

These EMS aviation operations provide an important service to the public by transporting seriously ill patients or donor organs to emergency care facilities. Each year, on average, air medical companies transport about 350,000 patients by helicopter and 100,000 by fixed wing aircraft.

Providing emergency air medical service is dangerous work. Unfortunately, we have been reminded of this fact all too many times this year, most recently by the tragic crash in Arizona.

I first became involved in the issue of emergency air medical service safety when an EMS helicopter crashed near my hometown in Washington state. On September 29, 2005, an Airlift Northwest EMS transport helicopter crashed into the waters of Puget Sound at Browns Bay, just north of Edmonds, Washington. On board were pilot Steve Smith, and nurses Erin Reed and Lois Suzuki. There were no survivors. Over time, I have communicated with both Erin's mother and sister about their loss.

The cause of the crash remains unknown as EMS transport helicopters are not required to have a "black box" or flight data recorder on board, and only part of the helicopter could be recovered from Puget Sound. Some in the area think the wind, rain, and heavy fog were to blame. Others claim that the helicopter sounded like it was having engine trouble.

All we do know is that three people dedicated to saving lives were lost in

the ocean that night. And sadly, their story is not uncommon.

According to a study by Johns Hopkins University, one in four medical helicopters will crash during its 15 years of service. In just the last six months, there have been nine medical helicopter crashes and 16 deaths.

This alarming epidemic of accidents has opened the eyes of the Federal Aviation Administration, National Transportation Safety Board and policymakers in recent days. But the recent spike in accidents is not a new trend. In fact, between January 2002 and January 2005, there were 55 crashes of medical helicopters. On January 25, 2006, the NTSB released a report identifying recurring gaps in safety that must be addressed, including: Less stringent requirements for emergency medical operations conducted without patients on board; a lack of aviation flight risk-evaluation programs; a lack of consistent, comprehensive flight dispatch procedures; and no requirements to use technologies such as terrain awareness and warning systems that have the power to enhance flight safety.

At my request, Section 508 of S. 1300, a bill to reauthorize the FAA incorporated the NTSB recommendations for addressing these gaps. Subsequent to that bill's introduction in the spring of 2007, I had the opportunity to discuss with stakeholders how to improve upon the language. The bill I am introducing today is essentially the amendment I filed this May when the FAA reauthorization bill was on the floor. Given the uncertain status of that legislation, and in light of the recent events, I felt the urgency to transform the amendment into stand-alone legislation.

This bill will implement new procedures and improve standards already in place through strengthened safety requirements, comprehensive flight dispatch and flight following procedures, improved situation awareness of helicopter air crews, and better data available to NTSB investigators at crash sites.

It is time to put black boxes in these helicopters.

It is time to require the same safety standards regardless of whether or not a patient is on board.

It is time to evaluate potential risks before take-off.

It is time to improve the situational awareness of air medical flight crews.

If not, we are bound to witness more tragedies.

I am committed to these changes and I ask my colleagues to lend their support in making the skies safer for the men and women who dedicate their lives to getting critically injured patients the medical attention they need.

By Mr. BINGAMAN:

S. 3233. A bill to promote development of a 21st century energy system to increase United States competitiveness in the world energy technology marketplace, and for other purposes; to