

(2) DETERMINATION BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary shall issue an order restoring the eligibility of the otherwise eligible place to receive basic essential air service by an air carrier for compensation under subsection (c) if—

(A) a State or local government submits to the Secretary a proposal under paragraph (1); and

(B) the Secretary determines that—

(i) the rate of subsidy per passenger under the proposal does not exceed the subsidy cap;

(ii) the proposal is likely to result in an average number of enplanements per day that will satisfy the requirement in section 41731(a)(1)(B); and

(iii) the proposal is consistent with the legal and regulatory requirements of the essential air service program.

(h) SUBSIDY CAP DEFINED.—In this section, the term “subsidy cap” means the subsidy-per-passenger cap established by section 332 of the Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000 (Public Law 106-69; 113 Stat. 1022).

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1145; Pub. L. 106-181, title II, §209(b), Apr. 5, 2000, 114 Stat. 95; Pub. L. 112-95, title IV, §§423-425, Feb. 14, 2012, 126 Stat. 97, 98.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

Revised Section	Source (U.S. Code)	Source (Statutes at Large)
41733(a)	49 App.:1389(b)(1)(A) (less last sentence last 24 words), (C).	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, 72 Stat. 731, §419(b)(1), (3), (4), (9); added Oct. 24, 1978, Pub. L. 95-504, §33(a), 92 Stat. 1732; Dec. 8, 1983, Pub. L. 98-213, §10, 97 Stat. 1461; Oct. 4, 1984, Pub. L. 98-443, §9(r), 98 Stat. 1708; restated Dec. 30, 1987, Pub. L. 100-223, §202(a)(1), (2), (b)(1), 101 Stat. 1507, 1508, 1509, 1511.
41733(b)(1) ..	49 App.:1389(b)(1)(A) (last sentence last 24 words), (B).	
41733(b)(2) ..	49 App.:1389(b)(9).	
41733(c)	49 App.:1389(b)(3).	
41733(d)	49 App.:1389(b)(4).	
41733(e)	49 App.:1389(b)(1)(D).	

In subsection (a), the words “the level of basic essential air service for that place shall be the level established by the Secretary of Transportation for that place” are substituted for “Such determination shall be made” because the determinations for those places have been made. The words “by not later than December 29, 1988” are substituted for “no later than the last day of the 1-year period beginning on December 30, 1987” for clarity. The words “and only after consideration of the views of any interested community and the State agency of the State in which such community is located” and 49 App.:1389(b)(1)(C) are omitted as executed.

In subsections (b)(1) and (e), the words “appropriate State authority” are substituted for “State agency” for clarity and consistency with the source provisions restated in section 41734(a) of the revised title.

In section (b)(2), the words “that appears to deprive” are substituted for “which reasonably appears to deprive” to eliminate an unnecessary word.

In subsection (c)(1), before clause (A), the words “an air carrier may apply to provide basic essential air service to the place for compensation” are substituted for “applications may be submitted by any air carrier that is willing to provide such service to such point for compensation” for clarity and to eliminate unnecessary words.

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 419 of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, referred to in subsec. (a), is section 419 of Pub. L. 85-726, which was classified to section 1389 of former Title 49, Transportation, and was repealed and reenacted as this subchapter by Pub. L. 103-272, §§1(e), 7(b), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1143, 1379.

The date of enactment of this subsection, referred to in subsec. (g)(1), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 112-95, which was approved Feb. 14, 2012.

Section 332 of the Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000, referred to in subsec. (h), is section 332 of Pub. L. 106-69, which is set out as a note under section 41731 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

2012—Subsec. (c)(1)(E), (F). Pub. L. 112-95, §423, added subpar. (E) and redesignated former subpar. (E) as (F).

Subsec. (f). Pub. L. 112-95, §424, added subsec. (f).

Subsecs. (g), (h). Pub. L. 112-95, §425, added subsecs. (g) and (h).

2000—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 106-181 inserted before period at end “, to the extent such adjustments are to a level not less than the basic essential air service level established under subsection (a) for the airport that serves the community”.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2000 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 106-181 applicable only to fiscal years beginning after Sept. 30, 1999, see section 3 of Pub. L. 106-181, set out as a note under section 106 of this title.

SEASONAL SERVICE

Pub. L. 115-254, div. B, title IV, §451(b), Oct. 5, 2018, 132 Stat. 3347, provided that: “The Secretary of Transportation may consider the flexibility of current operational dates and airport accessibility to meet local community needs when issuing requests for proposal of essential air service at seasonal airports.”

EFFECT ON CERTAIN ORDERS

Pub. L. 106-181, title II, §209(c), Apr. 5, 2000, 114 Stat. 95, provided that: “All orders issued by the Secretary [of Transportation] after September 30, 1999, and before the date of the enactment of this Act [Apr. 5, 2000] establishing, modifying, or revoking essential air service levels shall be null and void beginning on the 90th day following such date of enactment. During the 90-day period, the Secretary shall reconsider such orders and shall issue new orders consistent with the amendments made by this section [amending this section and section 41742 of this title].”

§ 41734. Ending, suspending, and reducing basic essential air service

(a) NOTICE REQUIRED.—An air carrier may end, suspend, or reduce air transportation to an eligible place below the level of basic essential air service established for that place under section 41733 of this title only after giving the Secretary of Transportation, the appropriate State authority, and the affected communities at least 90 days’ notice before ending, suspending, or reducing that transportation.

(b) CONTINUATION OF SERVICE FOR 30 DAYS AFTER NOTICE PERIOD.—If at the end of the notice period under subsection (a) of this section the Secretary has not found another air carrier to provide basic essential air service to the eligible place, the Secretary shall require the carrier providing notice to continue to provide

basic essential air service to the place for an additional 30-day period or until another carrier begins to provide basic essential air service to the place, whichever occurs first.

(c) CONTINUATION OF SERVICE FOR ADDITIONAL 30-DAY PERIODS.—If at the end of the 30-day period under subsection (b) of this section the Secretary decides another air carrier will not provide basic essential air service to the place on a continuing basis, the Secretary shall require the carrier providing service to continue to provide service for additional 30-day periods until another carrier begins providing service on a continuing basis. At the end of each 30-day period, the Secretary shall decide if another carrier will provide service on a continuing basis.

(d) CONTINUATION OF COMPENSATION AFTER NOTICE PERIOD.—If an air carrier receiving compensation under section 41733 of this title for providing basic essential air service to an eligible place is required to continue to provide service to the place under this section after the 90-day notice period under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary shall provide the carrier with compensation sufficient—

(1) to pay for the fully allocated actual cost to the carrier of performing the basic essential air service that was being provided when the 90-day notice was given under subsection (a) of this section plus a reasonable return on investment that is at least 5 percent of operating costs; and

(2) to provide the carrier an additional return that recognizes the demonstrated additional lost profits from opportunities foregone and the likelihood that those lost profits increase as the period during which the carrier is required to provide the service continues.

(e) COMPENSATION TO AIR CARRIERS ORIGINALLY PROVIDING SERVICE WITHOUT COMPENSATION.—If the Secretary requires an air carrier providing basic essential air service to an eligible place without compensation under section 41733 of this title to continue providing that service after the 90-day notice period required by subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary shall provide the carrier with compensation after the end of the 90-day notice period that is sufficient—

(1) to pay for the fully allocated actual cost to the carrier of performing the basic essential air service that was being provided when the 90-day notice was given under subsection (a) of this section plus a reasonable return on investment that is at least 5 percent of operating costs; and

(2) to provide the carrier an additional return that recognizes the demonstrated additional lost profits from opportunities foregone and the likelihood that those lost profits increase as the period during which the carrier is required to provide the service continues.

(f) FINDING REPLACEMENT CARRIERS.—When the Secretary requires an air carrier to continue to provide basic essential air service to an eligible place, the Secretary shall continue to make every effort to find another carrier to provide at least that basic essential air service to the place on a continuing basis.

(g) TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY.—If an air carrier, providing basic essential air service under sec-

tion 41733 of this title between an eligible place and an airport at which the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration limits the number of instrument flight rule takeoffs and landings of aircraft, provides notice under subsection (a) of this section of an intention to end, suspend, or reduce that service and another carrier is found to provide the service, the Secretary shall require the carrier providing notice to transfer any operational authority the carrier has to land or take off at that airport related to the service to the eligible place to the carrier that will provide the service, if—

(1) the carrier that will provide the service needs the authority; and

(2) the authority to be transferred is being used to provide air service to another eligible place.

(h) NONCONSIDERATION OF SLOT AVAILABILITY.—In determining what is basic essential air service and in selecting an air carrier to provide such service, the Secretary shall not consider as a factor whether slots at a high density airport are available for providing such service.

(i) EXEMPTION FROM HOLD-IN REQUIREMENTS.—If, after the date of enactment of this subsection, an air carrier commences air transportation to an eligible place that is not receiving scheduled passenger air service as a result of the failure of the eligible place to meet requirements contained in an appropriations Act, the air carrier shall not be subject to the requirements of subsections (b) and (c) with respect to such air transportation.

(Pub. L. 103-272, §1(e), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 1146; Pub. L. 103-305, title II, §206(c), Aug. 23, 1994, 108 Stat. 1587; Pub. L. 103-429, §6(81), Oct. 31, 1994, 108 Stat. 4388; Pub. L. 108-176, title IV, §401, Dec. 12, 2003, 117 Stat. 2542; Pub. L. 112-95, title IV, §426(b)(1), Feb. 14, 2012, 126 Stat. 98.)

HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Revised Section</i>	<i>Source (U.S. Code)</i>	<i>Source (Statutes at Large)</i>
41734(a)	49 App.:1389(b)(2).	Aug. 23, 1958, Pub. L. 85-726, 72 Stat. 731, §419(b)(2), (5)-(8); added Oct. 24, 1978, Pub. L. 95-504, §33(a), 92 Stat. 1732; Dec. 8, 1983, Pub. L. 98-213, §10, 97 Stat. 1461; Oct. 4, 1984, Pub. L. 98-443, §9(r), 98 Stat. 1708; restated Dec. 30, 1987, Pub. L. 100-223, §202(a)(1), (2), (b)(1), 101 Stat. 1507, 1509, 1510.
41734(b)	49 App.:1389(b)(5) (1st sentence).	
41734(c)	49 App.:1389(b)(5) (last sentence).	
41734(d)	49 App.:1389(b)(6)(A).	
41734(e)	49 App.:1389(b)(6)(B).	
41734(f)	49 App.:1389(b)(8).	
41734(g)	49 App.:1389(b)(7).	

In subsection (b), the words “If at the end of the notice period under subsection (a) of this section” are substituted for “If an air carrier has provided notice to the Secretary under paragraph (2) of such air carrier’s intention to suspend, terminate, or reduce service to any eligible point below the level of basic essential air service to such point, and if at the conclusion of the applicable period of notice” for clarity and to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsection (c), the words “either with or without compensation” are omitted as unnecessary. The words “shall require the carrier providing service to continue to provide service for additional 30-day periods” are

substituted for “shall extend such requirement for such additional 30-day periods . . . as may be necessary to continue basic essential air service to such eligible point”, and the words “the Secretary shall decide if another carrier will provide service on a continuing basis” are substituted for “making the same determination”, for clarity.

In subsections (d)(1) and (e)(1), the word “fair” is omitted as being included in “reasonable”.

In subsection (d), before clause (1), the words “basic essential air service” are substituted for “air transportation” and “such transportation” for consistency with the source provisions restated in this section. The words “to continue to provide service to the place under this section after the 90-day notice period under subsection (a) of this section” are substituted for “to continue service to such point beyond the date on which such carrier would, but for paragraph (5), be able to suspend, terminate, or reduce such service below the level of basic essential air service to such point” to eliminate unnecessary words.

In subsection (e), before clause (1), the words “basic essential air service” are substituted for “air transportation” for consistency with the source provisions restated in this section. The words “after the end of the 90-day notice period that is” are substituted for “then” for clarity.

In subsection (f), the words “basic essential air service” are substituted for “air transportation which such air carrier has proposed to terminate, reduce, or suspend” for consistency with the source provisions restated in this section.

In subsection (g)(2), the words “the authority to be transferred is being used only to provide air service to the eligible place” are substituted for “unless . . . such authority is being used to provide air service with respect to more than 1 eligible point” for clarity and because of the restatement.

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The date of enactment of this subsection, referred to in subsec. (i), is the date of enactment of Pub. L. 108-176, which was approved Dec. 12, 2003.

AMENDMENTS

2012—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 112-95, in introductory provisions, substituted “provide the carrier with compensation sufficient—” for “continue to pay that compensation after the last day of that period. The Secretary shall pay the compensation until the Secretary finds another carrier to provide the service to the place or the 90th day after the end of that notice period, whichever is earlier. If, after the 90th day after the end of the 90-day notice period, the Secretary has not found another carrier to provide the service, the carrier required to continue to provide that service shall receive compensation sufficient—”.

2003—Subsec. (i). Pub. L. 108-176 added subsec. (i).

1994—Subsec. (g)(2). Pub. L. 103-429 amended par. (2) generally. Prior to amendment, par. (2) read as follows: “the authority to be transferred is being used only to provide air service to the eligible place.”

Subsec. (h). Pub. L. 103-305 added subsec. (h).

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2012 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 112-95, title IV, § 426(b)(2), Feb. 14, 2012, 126 Stat. 98, provided that: “The amendment made by paragraph (1) [amending this section] shall apply to compensation to air carriers for air service provided after the 30th day following the date of enactment of this Act [Feb. 14, 2012].”

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2003 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 108-176 applicable only to fiscal years beginning after Sept. 30, 2003, except as other-

wise specifically provided, see section 3 of Pub. L. 108-176, set out as a note under section 106 of this title.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1994 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-429 effective July 5, 1994, see section 9 of Pub. L. 103-429, set out as a note under section 321 of this title.

DEFINITIONS

For definitions of the terms “slot” and “high density airport” used in subsec. (h) of this section, see section 41714(h) of this title.

§ 41735. Enhanced essential air service

(a) PROPOSALS.—(1) A State or local government may submit a proposal to the Secretary of Transportation for enhanced essential air service to an eligible place for which basic essential air service is being provided under section 41733 of this title. The proposal shall—

(A) specify the level and type of enhanced essential air service the State or local government considers appropriate; and

(B) include an agreement related to compensation required for the proposed service.

(2) The agreement submitted under paragraph (1)(B) of this subsection shall provide that—

(A) the State or local government or a person pay 50 percent of the compensation required for the proposed service and the United States Government pay the remaining 50 percent; or

(B)(i) the Government pay 100 percent of the compensation; and

(ii) if the proposed service is not successful for at least a 2-year period under the criteria prescribed by the Secretary under paragraph (3) of this subsection, the eligible place is not eligible for air service or air transportation for which compensation is paid by the Secretary under this subchapter.

(3) The Secretary shall prescribe by regulation objective criteria for deciding whether enhanced essential air service to an eligible place under this section is successful in terms of—

(A) increasing passenger usage of the airport facilities at the place; and

(B) reducing the amount of compensation provided by the Secretary under this subchapter for that service.

(b) DECISIONS.—Not later than 90 days after receiving a proposal under subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary shall—

(1) approve the proposal if the Secretary decides the proposal is reasonable; or

(2) if the Secretary decides the proposal is not reasonable, disapprove the proposal and notify the State or local government of the disapproval and the reasons for the disapproval.

(c) COMPENSATION PAYMENTS.—(1) The Secretary shall pay compensation under this section when and in the way the Secretary decides is appropriate. Compensation for enhanced essential air service under this section may be paid only for the costs incurred in providing air service to an eligible place that are in addition to the costs incurred in providing basic essential air service to the place under section 41733 of this title. The Secretary shall continue to pay