

105TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4742

To improve consumers' access to airline industry information, to promote competition in the aviation industry, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 8, 1998

Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, and Ms. KAPTUR) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To improve consumers' access to airline industry information, to promote competition in the aviation industry, 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 "Aviation Consumer
5 Right To Know Act of 1998".

6 **SEC. 2. CODE-SHARING DISCLOSURE.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the
8 date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transpor-
9 tation shall begin implementation of the requirements con-

1 tained in the notice of proposed rulemaking of the Depart-
2 ment of Transportation, dated August 10, 1994, concern-
3 ing disclosure of code-sharing arrangements and long-term
4 wet leases.

5 (b) WRITTEN NOTICE.—Before implementing the re-
6 quirements referred to subsection (a), the Secretary shall
7 modify the requirements to ensure that written notice of
8 a code-sharing arrangement or long-term wet lease is pro-
9 vided on ticket stock and any accompanying itinerary.

10 **SEC. 3. TRAVEL TICKET AGENT OVERRIDE DISCLOSURE.**

11 The Secretary of Transportation shall conduct a rule-
12 making proceeding to require a ticket agent for air trans-
13 portation to disclose verbally, in any direct verbal commu-
14 nication with a prospective consumer of air transportation
15 services, the commissions (including all forms of financial
16 and in-kind remuneration) paid to the ticket agent (or the
17 ticket agent's agency) by all air carriers serving the mar-
18 kets of interest to the prospective consumer.

19 **SEC. 4. FREQUENT FLYER PROGRAM STATISTICS.**

20 The Secretary of Transportation shall conduct a rule-
21 making proceeding to require each air carrier to keep
22 records and publish statistics concerning the possibility of
23 redeeming frequent flyer benefits offered by the air carrier
24 for air transportation between any city-pair market of the
25 air carrier. Publication requirements established pursuant

1 to this section shall include a requirement that the avail-
2 ability of such statistics be noticed in any newsletter pro-
3 vided by the air carrier to members of its frequent flyer
4 program.

5 **SEC. 5. INTERNET PUBLICATION OF AIR FARES.**

6 The Secretary of Transportation shall conduct a rule-
7 making proceeding to require each air carrier to publish
8 on the international computer network known as the
9 Internet, in a manner that is comprehensible and readily
10 accessible by the general public, the available fares for air
11 transportation offered by the air carrier (including fares
12 for each class of service and each subcategory within the
13 class) on each flight scheduled for departure on or before
14 the 60th day following the date of publication and to up-
15 date the publication not less than once every 24 hours.

16 **SEC. 6. DEADLINES.**

17 In conducting the rulemaking proceedings under sec-
18 tions 3, 4, and 5, the Secretary shall—

19 (1) not later than 180 days after the date of
20 enactment of this Act, issue a notice of proposed
21 rulemaking; and

22 (2) not later than 1 year after such date of en-
23 actment, issue a final rule.

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