

107TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2951

To authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration, and
for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2002

Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. HOLLINGS, and Mr. MCCAIN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation
Administration, 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 “Federal Aviation Ad-
5 ministration Research, Engineering, and Development Act
6 of 2002”.

7 **SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 (a) AMOUNTS AUTHORIZED.—Section 48102(a) of
9 title 49, United States Code, is amended—

1 (1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph
2 (7);

3 (2) by striking the period at the end of para-
4 graph (8) and inserting a semicolon; and

5 (3) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(9) for fiscal year 2003, \$261,000,000,
7 including—

8 “(A) \$211,000,000 to improve aviation
9 safety;

10 “(B) \$18,000,000 to improve the efficiency
11 of the air traffic control system;

12 “(C) \$16,000,000 to reduce the environ-
13 mental impact of aviation; and

14 “(D) \$16,000,000 to improve the efficiency
15 of mission support;

16 “(10) for fiscal year 2004, \$274,000,000,
17 including—

18 “(A) \$221,000,000 to improve aviation
19 safety;

20 “(B) \$19,000,000 to improve the efficiency
21 of the air traffic control system;

22 “(C) \$17,000,000 to reduce the environ-
23 mental impact of aviation; and

24 “(D) \$17,000,000 to improve the efficiency
25 of mission support; and

1 “(11) for fiscal year 2005, \$287,000,000,
2 including—

3 “(A) \$231,000,000 to improve aviation
4 safety;

5 “(B) \$20,000,000 to improve the efficiency
6 of the air traffic control system;

7 “(C) \$18,000,000 to reduce the environ-
8 mental impact of aviation; and

9 “(D) \$18,000,000 to improve the efficiency
10 of mission support.”.

11 **SEC. 3. COORDINATION OF NATIONAL AVIATION SAFETY**
12 **AND SECURITY RESEARCH PROGRAMS.**

13 (a) DEVELOPMENT OF PLAN.—Not later than June
14 30, 2003, the National Aeronautics and Space Adminis-
15 tration Administrator, the Federal Aviation Administra-
16 tion Administrator, and the Under Secretary of Transpor-
17 tation for Security shall prepare and transmit an updated
18 integrated civil aviation research and development plan to
19 the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Trans-
20 portation and the House of Representatives Committee on
21 Transportation and Infrastructure.

22 (b) CONTENTS.—The updated integrated civil avia-
23 tion research and development plan shall include—

24 (1) identification of the respective aviation re-
25 search and development requirements, roles, and re-

1 sponsibilities of the National Aeronautics and Space
2 Administration, the Federal Aviation Administra-
3 tion, and the Transportation Security Administra-
4 tion; and

5 (2) review of steps they could take to facilitate
6 the transfer and adoption of new technologies in an
7 operational environment, including consideration of
8 increasing the exchange of research staff, providing
9 greater details on funding at the project level in
10 joint plans, and providing for greater use of tech-
11 nology readiness in program plans and budgets to
12 help frame the maturity of new technologies and de-
13 termine when they can be implemented.

14 **SEC. 4. RESEARCH PROGRAM TO IMPROVE AIRFIELD PAVE-**
15 **MENTS.**

16 The Federal Aviation Administration Administrator
17 shall continue the program to consider awards to nonprofit
18 concrete pavement research foundations to improve the de-
19 sign, construction, rehabilitation, and repair of rigid con-
20 crete airfield pavements to aid in the development of safer,
21 more cost-effective, and more durable airfield pavements.
22 The Administrator may use grants or cooperative agree-
23 ments in carrying out this section. Nothing in this section
24 requires the Administrator to prioritize an airfield pave-

1 ment research program above safety, security, Flight 21,
2 environment, or energy research programs.

3 **SEC. 5. ENSURING APPROPRIATE STANDARDS FOR AIR-**
4 **FIELD PAVEMENTS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Aviation Administra-
6 tion Administrator shall review and determine whether the
7 Federal Aviation Administration’s standards used to de-
8 termine the appropriate thickness for asphalt and concrete
9 airfield pavements are in accordance with the Federal
10 Aviation Administration’s standard 20-year-life require-
11 ment using the most up-to-date available information on
12 the life of airfield pavements. If the Administrator deter-
13 mines that such standards are not in accordance with that
14 requirement, the Administrator shall make appropriate
15 adjustments to the Federal Aviation Administration’s
16 standards for airfield pavements.

17 (b) REPORT.—Within 1 year after the date of enact-
18 ment of this Act, the Administrator shall report the results
19 of the review conducted under subsection (a) and the ad-
20 justments, if any, made on the basis of that review to the
21 Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
22 tation and the House of Representatives Committee on
23 Transportation and Infrastructure.

1 **SEC. 6. AIR TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT RESEARCH AND DE-**
2 **VELOPMENT INITIATIVE.**

3 (a) **OBJECTIVE.**—The Federal Aviation Administra-
4 tion Administrator, in coordination with the National Aer-
5 onautics and Space Administration Administrator, shall
6 participate in a national initiative with the objective of de-
7 fining and developing an air traffic management system
8 designed to meet national long-term aviation security,
9 safety, and capacity needs. The initiative should result in
10 a multiagency blueprint for acquisition and implementa-
11 tion of an air traffic management system that would—

12 (1) build upon current air traffic management
13 and infrastructure initiatives;

14 (2) improve the security, safety, quality, and af-
15 fordability of aviation services;

16 (3) utilize a system of systems approach;

17 (4) develop a highly integrated, secure common
18 information network to enable common situational
19 awareness for all appropriate system users; and

20 (5) ensure seamless global operations for sys-
21 tem users.

22 (b) **IMPLEMENTATION.**—In implementing subsection
23 (a), the Federal Aviation Administration Administrator, in
24 coordination with the National Aeronautics and Space Ad-
25 ministration Administrator, shall work with other appro-
26 priate Government agencies and industry to—

- 1 (1) develop system performance requirements;
- 2 (2) determine an optimal operational concept
- 3 and system architecture to meet such requirements;
- 4 (3) utilize new modeling, simulation, and anal-
- 5 ysis tools to quantify and validate system perform-
- 6 ance and benefits;
- 7 (4) ensure the readiness of enabling tech-
- 8 nologies; and
- 9 (5) develop a transition plan for successful im-
- 10 plementation into the National Airspace System.

11 **SEC. 7. ASSESSMENT OF WAKE TURBULENCE RESEARCH**
12 **AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.**

13 (a) ASSESSMENT.—The Federal Aviation Adminis-

14 tration Administrator shall enter into an arrangement

15 with the National Research Council for an assessment of

16 the Federal Aviation Administration’s proposed wake tur-

17 bulence research and development program. The assess-

18 ment shall address—

- 19 (1) research and development goals and objec-
- 20 tives;
- 21 (2) research and development objectives that
- 22 should be part of Federal Aviation Administration’s
- 23 proposed program;
- 24 (3) proposed research and development pro-
- 25 gram’s ability to achieve the goals and objectives of

1 the Federal Aviation Administration, and of the Na-
2 tional Research Council, the schedule, and the level
3 of resources needed; and

4 (4) the roles other Federal agencies, such as
5 National Aeronautics and Space Administration and
6 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-
7 tion, should play in wake turbulence research and
8 development, and coordination of these efforts.

9 (b) REPORT.—A report containing the results of the
10 assessment shall be provided to the Committee on Science
11 of the House of Representatives and to the Committee on
12 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate not
13 later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

14 (c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
15 are authorized to be appropriated to the Federal Aviation
16 Administration Administrator for fiscal year 2003,
17 \$500,000 to carry out this section.

18 **SEC. 8. DEVELOPMENT OF ANALYTICAL TOOLS AND CER-**
19 **TIFICATION METHODS.**

20 The Federal Aviation Administration may conduct re-
21 search to promote the development of analytical tools to
22 improve existing certification methods and to reduce the
23 overall costs to manufacturers for the certification of new
24 products.

1 **SEC. 9. CABIN AIR QUALITY RESEARCH PROGRAM.**

2 In accordance with the recommendation of the Na-
3 tional Academy of Sciences in its report entitled “The Air-
4 liner Cabin Environment and the Health of Passengers
5 and Crew”, the Federal Aviation Administration may es-
6 tablish a research program to answer questions about
7 cabin air quality of aircraft.

8 **SEC. 10. RESEARCH TO IMPROVE CAPACITY AND REDUCE**
9 **DELAYS.**

10 The Administrator may include, as part of the Fed-
11 eral Aviation Administration research program, a system-
12 atic review and assessment of the specific causes of airport
13 delay at the 31 airports identified in the Airport
14 Benchmarking Study, on an airport-by-airport basis.

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