

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 957

To amend title 49, United States Code, to improve the training requirements for and require the certification of cabin crew members, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 30, 2003

Mrs. BOXER introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

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## A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to improve the training requirements for and require the certification of cabin crew members, 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 “Flight Attendant Cer-  
5 tification Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The Federal Aviation Administration re-  
9 quires cabin crew on board all transport category

1 aircraft (20 seats or more) to handle aircraft evacu-  
2 ations and other emergency procedures.

3 (2) Cabin crew are in-flight first responders  
4 trained to handle medical emergencies, fires, and se-  
5 curity threats.

6 (3) As safety-sensitive employees, cabin crew  
7 are tested for drug and alcohol use.

8 (4) Federal regulations limit cabin crew duty  
9 time and stipulate mandatory rest periods.

10 (5) A wide disparity in quality and content of  
11 training exists from air carrier to air carrier.

12 (6) The Federal Aviation Administration cer-  
13 tifies other groups with safety responsibilities under  
14 its jurisdiction, including pilots, mechanics, repair-  
15 men, dispatchers, and parachute packers.

16 (7) Certification of cabin crew will make the  
17 Federal Aviation Administration responsible for en-  
18 suring that cabin crew are qualified to perform their  
19 safety and security duties.

20 **SEC. 3. TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR CABIN CREW.**

21 Section 44935 of chapter 449 of part A of subtitle  
22 VII of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding  
23 at the end the following:

24 “(g) TRAINING STANDARDS FOR CABIN CREW.—

1           “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall  
2           prescribe standards for cabin crew training and cer-  
3           tification. The standards shall include the following:

4                   “(A) MANDATORY CERTIFICATION.—All  
5                   new and existing cabin crew members shall be  
6                   certified by the Administrator after successful  
7                   completion of an air carrier’s training program,  
8                   which consists of—

9                           “(i) initial and emergency training;

10                           “(ii) air carrier specific training re-  
11                           lated to aircraft types and operator’s cer-  
12                           tificate; and

13                           “(iii) submission by the air carrier to  
14                           the Administrator confirming such comple-  
15                           tion.

16                   “(B) STANDARDIZED TRAINING.—The Ad-  
17                   ministrator shall be prohibited from granting  
18                   an air carrier a waiver of cabin crew training  
19                   requirements or an exemption from any part of  
20                   such requirements.

21                   “(C) QUALIFICATIONS.—

22                           “(i) IN GENERAL.—To be qualified to  
23                           receive a cabin crew certificate, a cabin  
24                           crew member shall—

1           “(I) successfully complete the  
2 training requirements established by  
3 the Administrator, including all ini-  
4 tial, air-carrier specific training, emer-  
5 gency, transition, differences, recur-  
6 rent, and requalification training as  
7 described in the applicable regula-  
8 tions;

9           “(II) successfully complete the  
10 cabin security and self-defense train-  
11 ing requirements established by the  
12 Transportation Security Adminis-  
13 trator; and

14           “(III) successfully perform the  
15 assigned duties of a cabin crew mem-  
16 ber and complete the approved pro-  
17 ficiency check, under the supervision  
18 of a certified instructor or supervisor,  
19 for not less than 5 hours of initial op-  
20 erating experience.”.

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