

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2684

To authorize an independent review of the Federal Aviation Administration's aviation safety-related research programs, and in particular those programs related to air traffic control and runway safety, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 12, 2007

Mr. CHANDLER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Science and Technology

A BILL

To authorize an independent review of the Federal Aviation Administration's aviation safety-related research programs, and in particular those programs related to air traffic control and runway safety, 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 "FAA Aviation Safety
5 Research Assessment Act of 2007".

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act, the following definitions apply:

1 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-
2 trator” means the Administrator of the Federal
3 Aviation Administration.

4 (2) FAA.—The term “FAA” means the Fed-
5 eral Aviation Administration.

6 (3) NASA.—The term “NASA” means the Na-
7 tional Aeronautics and Space Administration.

8 **SEC. 3. REVIEW OF FAA’S AVIATION SAFETY-RELATED RE-**
9 **SEARCH PROGRAMS.**

10 (a) STUDY.—The Administrator shall enter into an
11 arrangement with the National Research Council for an
12 independent review of the FAA’s aviation safety-related
13 research programs. The review shall assess whether—

14 (1) the programs have well-defined, prioritized,
15 and appropriate research objectives;

16 (2) the programs are properly coordinated with
17 the safety research programs of NASA and other
18 relevant Federal agencies;

19 (3) the programs have allocated appropriate re-
20 sources to each of the research objectives; and

21 (4) there exist suitable mechanisms for
22 transitioning the research results from the programs
23 into the FAA’s operational technologies and proce-
24 dures and certification activities in a timely manner.

1 (b) AVIATION SAFETY-RELATED RESEARCH PRO-
2 GRAMS TO BE ASSESSED.—The FAA aviation safety-re-
3 lated research programs to be assessed under the review
4 shall include, at a minimum, the following:

5 (1) Air traffic control/technical operations
6 human factors.

7 (2) Runway incursion reduction.

8 (3) Flightdeck/maintenance system integration
9 human factors.

10 (4) Airports technology research—safety.

11 (5) Airport cooperative research program—safe-
12 ty.

13 (6) Weather program.

14 (7) Atmospheric hazards/digital system safety.

15 (8) Fire research and safety.

16 (9) Propulsion and fuel systems.

17 (10) Advanced materials/structural safety.

18 (11) Aging aircraft.

19 (12) Aircraft catastrophic failure prevention re-
20 search.

21 (13) Aeromedical research.

22 (14) Aviation safety risk analysis.

23 (15) Unmanned aircraft systems research.

24 (16) Safe flight 21—Alaska Capstone.

1 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 14 months after the
2 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall sub-
3 mit to the Committee on Science and Technology of the
4 House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-
5 merce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report
6 on the results of the review.

7 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out
9 this Act \$700,000 for fiscal year 2008.

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