

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1507

To require the Secretary of Transportation to grant exemptions under section 41714 of title 49, United States Code, to allow 30 additional slot exemptions at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport for air carriers to provide daily air service between Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport and other airports that are more than 1,250 statute miles from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 21, 1999

Mr. HANSEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To require the Secretary of Transportation to grant exemptions under section 41714 of title 49, United States Code, to allow 30 additional slot exemptions at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport for air carriers to provide daily air service between Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport and other airports that are more than 1,250 statute miles from Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Ronald Reagan Wash-
3 ington National Airport Freedom of Travel Act of 1999”.

4 **SEC. 2. SLOTS FOR AIR TRANSPORTATION BEYOND PERIM-**
5 **ETER RULE AT RONALD REAGAN WASH-**
6 **INGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT.**

7 Section 41714 of title 49, United States Code, is
8 amended by adding at the end the following:

9 “(j) SLOTS FOR AIRPORTS BEYOND 1,250 MILES
10 FROM REAGAN NATIONAL AIRPORT.—

11 “(1) EXEMPTIONS.—Notwithstanding chapter
12 491, the Secretary shall grant, by order, exemptions
13 from the requirements of subparts K and S of part
14 93 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (per-
15 taining to slots at high density airports), to enable
16 air carriers to provide daily nonstop air transpor-
17 tation between Ronald Reagan Washington National
18 Airport and an airport that is more than 1,250 stat-
19 ute miles from Ronald Reagan Washington National
20 Airport if the Secretary finds the exemptions will—

21 “(A) result in the provision of air trans-
22 portation service with domestic network benefits
23 in areas that are more than 1,250 statute miles
24 from Ronald Reagan Washington National Air-
25 port; and

1 “(B) increase domestic travel options for
2 communities that are more than 1,250 statute
3 miles from Ronald Reagan Washington Na-
4 tional Airport.

5 “(2) LIMITATIONS.—

6 “(A) MAXIMUM NUMBER OF EXEMPTIONS
7 PER HOUR.—No more than two exemptions per
8 hour between 7:00 ante meridiem and 9:59 post
9 meridiem may be granted under this subsection
10 for slots at Ronald Reagan Washington Na-
11 tional Airport.

12 “(B) STAGE 3 AIRCRAFT REQUIRED.—An
13 exemption may be granted under this sub-
14 section for a slot at Ronald Reagan Washington
15 National Airport only if jet aircraft that comply
16 with the stage 3 noise levels of part 36 of title
17 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations will be
18 used for the flight that will be operating under
19 such slot.

20 “(C) NUMBER OF EXEMPTIONS.—The
21 Secretary—

22 “(i) shall grant 30 daily exemptions
23 under this subsection;

24 “(ii) may not grant more than 4 of
25 such exemptions to any 1 air carrier; and

1 “(iii) may only grant an even number
2 of such exemptions under this subsection
3 to an air carrier.

4 “(3) APPLICATION.—An air carrier interested
5 in an exemption under this subsection shall submit
6 to the Secretary an application for such exemption.
7 No application may be submitted to the Secretary
8 before the last day of the 30-day period beginning
9 on the date of the enactment of this paragraph.

10 “(4) DEADLINE FOR DECISION.—Notwith-
11 standing any other provision of law, the Secretary
12 shall make a decision with regard to granting an ex-
13 emption under this subsection on or before the
14 120th day following the date of the application for
15 the exemption. If the Secretary does not make the
16 decision on or before such 120th day, the air carrier
17 applying for the service may provide such service
18 until the Secretary makes the decision or the Admin-
19 istrator of the Federal Aviation Administration de-
20 termines that providing such service would have an
21 adverse effect on air safety.

22 “(5) PERIOD OF EFFECTIVENESS.—An exemp-
23 tion granted under this subsection with respect to an
24 airport may remain in effect only while the air car-
25 rier for whom the exemption is granted continues to

1 provide daily nonstop air transportation between the
2 airport and Ronald Reagan Washington National
3 Airport.

4 “(6) RANKING OF APPLICATIONS.—In the event
5 that applications are filed for more than 30 slots
6 under this subsection, the Secretary shall award the
7 exemptions to—

8 “(A) air carriers that provide air transpor-
9 tation service with the greatest domestic net-
10 work benefits in areas that are more than 1,250
11 statute miles from Ronald Reagan Washington
12 National Airport; and

13 “(B) hub airports which provide access to
14 the maximum number of domestic cities.

15 “(7) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection the fol-
16 lowing definitions apply:

17 “(A) HUB AIRPORT.—The term ‘hub air-
18 port’ has the meaning such term has under sec-
19 tion 41731.

20 “(B) MEDIUM HUB AIRPORT.—The term
21 ‘medium hub airport’ means an airport that has
22 at least .25 percent, but less than 1.0 percent,
23 of the total annual boardings in the United
24 States.

1 “(C) SMALL HUB AIRPORT.—The term
2 ‘small hub airport’ has the meaning such term
3 has under section 41731.”.

4 **SEC. 3. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**

5 Section 49109 of title 49, United States Code, is
6 amended by striking “An air” and inserting “Subject to
7 section 41714(j), an air”.

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