

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3650

To amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit the operation of certain aircraft not complying with stage 4 noise levels, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 4, 2013

Mr. CROWLEY (for himself, Ms. MENG, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. QUIGLEY, Mr. HIMES, Mr. MEEKS, Mr. ISRAEL, and Mr. SIRES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit the operation of certain aircraft not complying with stage 4 noise levels, 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 “Silent Skies Act of
5 2013”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

1 (1) aircraft and airport noise is one of the most
 2 common “quality of life” nuisance issues in neigh-
 3 borhoods throughout the United States; and

4 (2) the stage 4 aircraft noise certification
 5 standard became applicable to new type design air-
 6 craft in 2006 pursuant to an agreement signed by
 7 the International Civil Aviation Organization, of
 8 which the United States is a member.

9 **SEC. 3. AIRCRAFT NOISE REDUCTION TECHNOLOGY RE-**
 10 **SEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND IMPLEMENTA-**
 11 **TION PARTNERSHIP.**

12 (a) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT.—Subchapter I of
 13 chapter 475 of title 49, United States Code, is amended
 14 by adding at the end the following:

15 **“§ 47511. Aircraft noise reduction technology re-**
 16 **search, development, and implementation**
 17 **partnership**

18 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Fed-
 19 eral Aviation Administration shall enter into a cooperative
 20 agreement, using a competitive process, with an institu-
 21 tion, entity, or consortium to carry out a program for the
 22 development, maturing, and certification of aircraft tech-
 23 nology that will assist in-service and in-production civil
 24 turbojets that have noise levels greater than the levels
 25 specified in stage 4 noise standards in complying with

1 such noise standards, as required under subchapter II of
 2 this chapter, or more stringent noise standards.

3 “(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The Administrator
 4 may include in a cooperative agreement entered into under
 5 this section terms and conditions requiring a recipient of
 6 funds under the cooperative agreement—

7 “(1) to conduct activities under the cooperative
 8 agreement on a cost-shared basis, using Federal and
 9 non-Federal funds; and

10 “(2) to make repayments to the United States
 11 of all or a portion of the amounts received by the
 12 recipient under the cooperative agreement, if an air-
 13 craft technology developed under the cooperative
 14 agreement results in revenues for the recipient.

15 “(c) FUNDING.—Of amounts appropriated under sec-
 16 tion 48102(a), not more than \$10,000,000 for each of fis-
 17 cal years 2014, 2015, and 2016 may be used to carry out
 18 this section.

19 “(d) REPORT.—Beginning in fiscal year 2014, the
 20 Administrator shall publish an annual report on the pro-
 21 gram established under this section until completion of the
 22 program.”.

23 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for such
 24 subchapter is amended by adding at the end the following:

“47511. Aircraft noise reduction technology research, development, and imple-
 mentation partnership.”.

1 **SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON OPERATING CERTAIN AIRCRAFT**
2 **NOT COMPLYING WITH STAGE 4 NOISE LEV-**
3 **ELS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 475 of
5 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
6 end the following:

7 **“§ 47535. Limitation on operating certain aircraft not**
8 **complying with stage 4 noise levels**

9 “(a) REGULATIONS.—Not later than December 3,
10 2015, the Secretary of Transportation, in consultation
11 with the International Civil Aviation Organization, shall
12 issue regulations to establish minimum standards for civil
13 turbojets to comply with stage 4 noise levels.

14 “(b) GENERAL RULE.—The Secretary shall issue
15 regulations to ensure that, except as provided in section
16 47529—

17 “(1) 25 percent of the civil turbojets with a
18 maximum weight of more than 75,000 pounds oper-
19 ating after December 31, 2020, to or from airports
20 in the United States comply with the stage 4 noise
21 levels established under subsection (a);

22 “(2) 50 percent of such turbojets operating
23 after December 31, 2025, to or from airports in the
24 United States comply with the stage 4 noise levels;

25 “(3) 75 percent of such turbojets operating
26 after December 31, 2030, to or from airports in the

1 United States comply with the stage 4 noise levels;
2 and

3 “(4) 100 percent of such turbojets operating
4 after December 31, 2035, to or from airports in the
5 United States comply with the stage 4 noise levels.

6 “(c) FOREIGN-FLAG AIRCRAFT.—

7 “(1) INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS.—The Sec-
8 retary shall request the International Civil Aviation
9 Organization to add to its Work Programme the
10 consideration of international standards for the
11 phase-out of aircraft that do not comply with stage
12 4 noise levels.

13 “(2) ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary shall en-
14 force the requirements of this section with respect to
15 foreign-flag aircraft only to the extent that such en-
16 forcement is consistent with United States obliga-
17 tions under international agreements.

18 “(d) ANNUAL REPORT.—Beginning with calendar
19 year 2016—

20 “(1) each air carrier shall submit to the Sec-
21 retary an annual report on the progress the carrier
22 is making toward complying with the requirements
23 of this section and regulations issued to carry out
24 this section; and

1 “(2) the Secretary shall submit to Congress an
 2 annual report on the progress being made toward
 3 that compliance.

4 “(e) RECERTIFICATION NOT REQUIRED.—

5 “(1) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUC-
 6 TION.—Nothing in this section may be construed to
 7 require the recertification of a civil turbojet that has
 8 been retrofitted to comply with or otherwise already
 9 meets the stage 4 noise levels established under sub-
 10 section (a).

11 “(2) MEANS OF DEMONSTRATING COMPLIANCE
 12 WITH STAGE 4 NOISE LEVELS.—The Secretary shall
 13 specify means for demonstrating that an aircraft
 14 complies with stage 4 noise levels without requiring
 15 recertification.”.

16 (b) NONADDITION RULE.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 47529 of such title
 18 is amended—

19 (A) in subsection (a)—

20 (i) in the matter preceding paragraph

21 (1)—

22 (I) by striking “subsonic”; and

23 (II) by striking “November 4,
 24 1990” and inserting “December 31,
 25 2018”;

1 (ii) in paragraph (1) by striking
2 “stage 3” and inserting “stage 4”; and

3 (iii) in paragraph (2) by striking “No-
4 vember 5, 1990” and inserting “January
5 1, 2019”;

6 (B) in subsection (b) by striking “stage 3”
7 and inserting “stage 4”; and

8 (C) in subsection (c)(1) by striking “No-
9 vember 5, 1990” and inserting “January 1,
10 2019”.

11 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made
12 by this subsection take effect on December 31,
13 2018.

14 (c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

15 (1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 475 of such title is
16 amended—

17 (A) in the chapter analysis—

18 (i) by striking the item relating to sec-
19 tion 47530 and inserting the following:

“47530. Nonapplication of certain requirements to aircraft outside the 48 con-
tiguous States.”;

20 and

21 (ii) by adding at the end the fol-
22 lowing:

“47535. Nonapplication of certain requirements to aircraft outside the 48 con-
tiguous States.”;

23 (B) in section 47530—

1 (i) by striking the section designation
2 and heading and inserting the following:

3 **“§ 47530. Nonapplication of certain requirements to**
4 **aircraft outside the 48 contiguous States”;**

5 (ii) by striking “and 47529” and in-
6 serting “, 47529, and 47535”;

7 (iii) by striking “subsonic”;

8 (iv) by striking “November 4, 1990”
9 and inserting “December 31, 2018”; and

10 (v) by striking “stage 3” and insert-
11 ing “stage 4”; and

12 (C) in section 47531 by striking “or
13 47534” and inserting “47534, or 47535”.

14 (2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made
15 by clauses (iii), (iv), and (v) of paragraph (1)(B)
16 take effect on December 31, 2018.

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