

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4917

To amend title 49, United States Code, to terminate the essential air service program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 12, 2016

Mr. RUSSELL (for himself, Mr. McCLINTOCK, Mr. BISHOP of Michigan, Mr. BUCK, Mr. PALMER, and Mr. RIBBLE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to terminate the essential air service program, 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 “Free Market Flights
5 Act of 2016”.

1 **SEC. 2. TERMINATION OF ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE PRO-**
2 **GRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 417 of
4 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
5 end the following:

6 **“§41749. Termination of essential air service pro-**
7 **gram**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The authority of the Secretary
9 of Transportation to carry out the essential air service
10 program under this subchapter shall terminate on October
11 1, 2016.

12 “(b) USE OF FEES FOR DEFICIT REDUCTION.—

13 “(1) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal years beginning
14 after September 30, 2016, amounts credited to the
15 account established under section 45303 from over-
16 flight fees authorized under section 45301(a)(1) that
17 would otherwise be made available under section
18 41742 for obligation and expenditure to carry out
19 the essential air service program under this sub-
20 chapter shall be deposited in the general fund of the
21 Treasury and shall be used for the sole purpose of
22 deficit reduction.

23 “(2) STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Paragraph
24 (1) shall apply notwithstanding any provision of sec-
25 tion 45303(c) that directs the amounts described in
26 paragraph (1) to be made available for expenditure

1 for activities of the Federal Aviation Administra-
2 tion.”.

3 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
4 ter 417 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by
5 inserting after the item relating to section 41748 the fol-
6 lowing:

“41749. Termination of essential air service program.”.

