

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 573

To direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to issue or revise regulations with respect to the medical certification of certain small aircraft pilots, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 25, 2015

Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. ROBERTS, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. INHOFE) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to issue or revise regulations with respect to the medical certification of certain small aircraft pilots, 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 “General Aviation Pilot
5 Protection Act of 2015”.

1 **SEC. 2. MEDICAL CERTIFICATION OF CERTAIN SMALL AIR-**
2 **CRAFT PILOTS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Administrator of
5 the Federal Aviation Administration shall issue or revise
6 medical certification regulations to ensure that an indi-
7 vidual may operate as pilot in command of a covered air-
8 craft without regard to any medical certification or proof
9 of health requirement otherwise applicable under Federal
10 law if—

11 (1) the individual possesses a valid State driv-
12 er's license and complies with any medical require-
13 ment associated with that license;

14 (2) the individual is transporting not more than
15 5 passengers;

16 (3) the individual is operating under visual
17 flight rules or instrument flight rules; and

18 (4) the relevant flight, including each portion
19 thereof, is not carried out—

20 (A) for compensation, including that no
21 passenger or property on the flight is being car-
22 ried for compensation;

23 (B) at an altitude that is more than
24 14,000 feet above mean sea level;

1 (C) outside the United States, unless au-
2 thorized by the country in which the flight is
3 conducted; or

4 (D) at an indicated air speed exceeding
5 250 knots.

6 (b) COVERED AIRCRAFT DEFINED.—In this section,
7 the term “covered aircraft” means an aircraft that—

8 (1) is not authorized under Federal law to carry
9 more than 6 occupants; and

10 (2) has a maximum certificated takeoff weight
11 of not more than 6,000 pounds.

12 (c) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 5 years
13 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Adminis-
14 trator shall submit to Congress a report that describes the
15 effect of the regulations issued or revised under subsection
16 (a) and includes statistics with respect to changes in small
17 aircraft activity and safety incidents.

18 (d) PROHIBITION ON ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS.—On
19 and after the date that is 180 days after the date of the
20 enactment of this Act, the Administrator may not take
21 an enforcement action for not holding a valid third-class
22 medical certificate against a pilot of a covered aircraft for
23 a flight if the pilot and the flight meet the applicable re-
24 quirements under paragraphs (1) through (4) of sub-

1 section (a) unless the Administrator has published final
2 regulations in the Federal Register under subsection (a).

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