

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3951

To authorize the Secretary of Transportation to declare that an aviation humanitarian crisis exists for airports impacted by a major disaster or emergency, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 4, 2017

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

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Transportation to declare that an aviation humanitarian crisis exists for airports impacted by a major disaster or emergency, 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 “Aviation Humanitarian
5 Crisis Act of 2017”.

6 **SEC. 2. AVIATION HUMANITARIAN CRISIS DECLARATIONS.**

7 (a) **AUTHORITY TO DECLARE.**—If the President de-
8 clares that a major disaster or emergency exists with re-

1 spect to an area under section 401 of the Robert T. Staf-
2 ford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42
3 U.S.C. 5170), the Secretary of Transportation may de-
4 clare, with respect to airports serving the area, that an
5 aviation humanitarian crisis exists.

6 (b) CONTENTS OF DECLARATION.—For each aviation
7 humanitarian crisis declared to exist, the Secretary shall
8 identify—

- 9 (1) the airports subject to the declaration; and
- 10 (2) the time period during which the declara-
11 tion applies.

12 (c) RESULTS OF DECLARATION.—If the Secretary
13 declares that an aviation humanitarian crisis exists with
14 respect to an airport, during the time period to which the
15 declaration applies—

- 16 (1) an air carrier that provides a flight in air
17 transportation to or from the airport may not charge
18 for any seat on the flight an amount that exceeds
19 the median amount charged with respect to all seats
20 on all flights of the carrier traveling the same route
21 during the 1-year period ending on the date on
22 which the crisis was declared to exist; and

- 23 (2) an entity that imposes, with respect to the
24 airport, a passenger facility charge authorized by the

1 Secretary under section 40117 of title 49, United
2 States Code, shall suspend imposing the charge.

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