

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4836

To provide an exemption to noncontiguous States for certain essential air service requirements.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 18, 2018

Ms. GABBARD (for herself, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, and Ms. HANABUSA) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To provide an exemption to noncontiguous States for certain essential air service requirements.

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. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

4 It is the sense of Congress that—

5 (1) as noncontiguous States, Alaska and Ha-
6 waii are burdened with unique transportation chal-
7 lenges without viable alternatives;

8 (2) communities in Alaska and Hawaii are reli-
9 ant on air transportation, making it an essential life-

1 line for conducting business, receiving healthcare,
2 and obtaining an education;

3 (3) the people of Alaska and Hawaii historically
4 have been exempt from essential air service eligibility
5 requirements under subchapter II of chapter 417 of
6 title 49, United States Code, due to the necessity of
7 air transportation; and

8 (4) proposed changes to the essential air service
9 program must consider this historical exemption for
10 Alaska and Hawaii and recognize their reliance on
11 air transportation.

12 **SEC. 2. EAS EXEMPTION FOR NONCONTIGUOUS STATES.**

13 The matter under the heading “Department of
14 Transportation—Office of the Secretary—Payments to
15 Air Carriers” in title I of the Transportation, Housing,
16 and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appro-
17 priations Act, 2017 (division K of Public Law 115–31)
18 is amended by inserting “, excluding a community located
19 in a noncontiguous State,” after “small hub airport”.

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