

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2983

To amend title 49, United States Code, to improve the essential air service program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 24, 2018

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. WYDEN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to improve the essential air service program.

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 “Defending Essential
5 Flights and Ensuring National Security Efforts (DE-
6 FENSE) Act of 2018”.

1 **SEC. 2. IMPROVING THE ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE PRO-**
2 **GRAM.**

3 Section 41731 of title 49, United States Code, is
4 amended by adding at the end the following new sub-
5 section:

6 “(g) **EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN LOCATIONS WITH**
7 **HIGH MILITARY USE.**—Subparagraph (D) of subsection
8 (a)(1) shall not apply with respect to any location that—

9 “(1) is certified under part 139 of title 14,
10 Code of Federal Regulations;

11 “(2) is not owned by the Federal government;
12 and

13 “(3) for which not less than 10 percent of air-
14 port operations in 2017 were by aircraft of the
15 Armed Forces.”.

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