

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3933

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for the installation of ground-based augmentation systems, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 16, 2021

Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself, Mr. LAMB, Mrs. TORRES of California, and Mr. KATKO) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for the installation of ground-based augmentation systems, 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 “Ground-Based Aug-
5 mentation Systems in the National Airspace System Im-
6 plementation Act” or the “GBAS Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GROUND-BASED AUGMENTATION SYSTEMS IMPLE-**
2 **MENTATION.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 44502 of title 49, United
4 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
5 lowing:

6 “(g) IMPLEMENTATION OF GROUND-BASED AUG-
7 MENTATION SYSTEMS.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 12 months
9 after the date of enactment of this subsection, the
10 Secretary of Transportation shall establish proce-
11 dures, criteria, and grant programs necessary for de-
12 ploying GBAS equipment and avionics at United
13 States airports and in aircraft operated by air car-
14 riers in the United States approving categories of in-
15 strument approaches and maintaining GBAS.

16 “(2) FUNDING.—

17 “(A) TO AIRPORTS.—The Secretary shall
18 fund up to the 39 busiest airports in the United
19 States, in terms of annual air carrier aircraft
20 operations, to install GBAS equipment as a fed-
21 erally funded navigational aid.

22 “(B) TO AIR CARRIERS.—To the maximum
23 extent practicable and economical, the Secretary
24 shall offer to fund air carriers operating in the
25 United States for the installation and upgrade

1 of GBAS avionics in the regional and air trans-
2 port aircraft operated by such airports.

3 “(3) VALIDATION OF INSTALLATIONS AND IN-
4 STRUMENT APPROACHES.—The Secretary shall vali-
5 date the GBAS installations and certify aircraft for
6 categories of instrument approaches.

7 “(4) OVERSIGHT AND MAINTENANCE.—The
8 Secretary shall maintain oversight and control over
9 the operation and maintenance of GBAS at public
10 airports.

11 “(5) DEADLINE FOR INSTALLATION.—To the
12 maximum extent feasible, any installation of GBAS
13 equipment required under this subsection shall be
14 completed not later than 10 years after the date of
15 enactment of this subsection.

16 “(6) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in
17 this subsection shall be construed to require the Sec-
18 retary to decommission the ground-based naviga-
19 tional instrument landing system.

20 “(7) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the
21 date of enactment of this subsection, and annually
22 thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Com-
23 mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the
24 Committee on Appropriations of the House of Rep-
25 resentatives and the Committee on Commerce,

1 Science, and Transportation and the Committee on
2 Appropriations of the Senate a report that—

3 “(A) describes the status of GBAS instal-
4 lation at airports and on aircraft and an esti-
5 mate of the timeline for completing any remain-
6 ing installations;

7 “(B) identifies any funding shortfalls re-
8 quired for the installation of GBAS at airports
9 and on aircraft as well as for projected annual
10 maintenance requirements;

11 “(C) identifies any further enhancements
12 or upgrades to improve runways landings under
13 all-weather operations; and

14 “(D) identifies any administrative and leg-
15 islative actions that would improve the effi-
16 ciency of the installation, validation, oversight
17 and maintenance of the systems.

18 “(8) DEFINITION OF GBAS.—In this subsection,
19 the term ‘GBAS’ means ground-based augmentation
20 systems, including ground equipment and avionics.

21 “(9) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—To make grants under
23 this subsection, there is authorized to be appro-
24 priated \$797,000,000.

1 “(B) INSTALLATION OF GBAS.—For the
2 procurement and installation of GBAS under
3 paragraph (1), there is authorized to be appro-
4 priated such sums as may be necessary.

5 “(C) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—The
6 Secretary may reserve up to 0.5 percent of
7 funds made available to carry out this sub-
8 section to cover the costs of additional per-
9 sonnel, contracting, or other costs necessary for
10 the administration of this subsection.”.

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