

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 5049

To direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to conduct a study on the operation of helicopters within a 20-mile radius of the Statue of Liberty National Monument, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 26, 2025

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. NADLER, Ms. MALLIOTAKIS, Mr. GOLDMAN of New York, and Mrs. McIVER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To direct the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to conduct a study on the operation of helicopters within a 20-mile radius of the Statue of Liberty National Monument, 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 “Protecting Commu-
5 nities from Helicopter Noise Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STUDY ON HELICOPTER OPERATIONS.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal
8 Aviation Administration shall conduct a study on heli-

1 copter operations within a 20-mile radius of the Statue
2 of Liberty National Monument.

3 (b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study under sub-
4 section (a), the Administrator shall focus on the following
5 items:

6 (1) The effect of persistent helicopter noise on
7 residential and recreational areas, including—

8 (A) an analysis of the volume of helicopter
9 traffic, including the time helicopters are flying
10 and the frequency of helicopters traversing the
11 airspace;

12 (B) an analysis of noise levels related to
13 helicopter operations;

14 (C) an analysis of safety, health, environ-
15 mental, and economic issues related to heli-
16 copter operations;

17 (D) an analysis of whether helicopters are
18 following the terms and conditions of voluntary
19 agreements, including the Statue of Liberty Na-
20 tional Monument and Governors Island Na-
21 tional Monument Voluntary Agreement;

22 (E) an analysis of the origination of heli-
23 copters traversing the airspace within a 20-mile
24 radius of the Statue of Liberty National Monu-
25 ment;

1 (F) an analysis of the necessity of heli-
2 copter traffic within a 20-mile radius of the
3 Statue of Liberty National Monument;

4 (G) an analysis of how helicopters con-
5 tribute to the congestion of the airspace within
6 a 20-mile radius of the Statue of Liberty;

7 (H) an projection of how electric vertical
8 take off and landing aircraft or other advanced
9 air mobility technologies will contribute to the
10 congestion, noise, and safety of the airspace
11 within a 20-mile radius of the Statue of Lib-
12 erty;

13 (I) an analysis of the quality of life of resi-
14 dents living in areas with high volumes of heli-
15 copter noise; and

16 (J) an analysis of any other issue related
17 to helicopter traffic on residential and rec-
18 reational areas.

19 (2) Solutions to abate or eliminate helicopter
20 noise on residential and recreational areas, includ-
21 ing—

22 (A) the feasibility of diverting helicopters
23 from residential and recreational areas;

24 (B) the feasibility of creating new flight
25 paths for helicopters, with attention to the pres-

1 ence of airports within a 20-mile radius of the
2 Statue of Liberty National Monument;

3 (C) an analysis of whether banning non-
4 essential helicopters within a 20-mile radius of
5 the Statue of Liberty will increase the overall
6 safety, health, and environment of the commu-
7 nity;

8 (D) the feasibility of establishing altitude
9 limits for helicopter operations in and around
10 within a 20-mile radius of the Statue of Liberty
11 National Monument; and

12 (E) other options for abating helicopter
13 noise.

14 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date
15 of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit
16 to Congress a report on the study under subsection (a).

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