

(3) improve recruitment of patent examiners; and

(4) decrease the number of patent applications waiting for examination and improve the quality of patent examination.

(c) REQUIRED CONSIDERATIONS.—In selecting the locale of each satellite office to be established under subsection (a), the Director shall—

(1) ensure geographic diversity among the offices, including by ensuring that such offices are established in different States and regions throughout the Nation; and

(2) rely upon any previous evaluations by the Patent and Trademark Office of potential locales for satellite offices, including any evaluations prepared as part of the Patent and Trademark Office's Nationwide Workforce Program that resulted in the 2010 selection of Detroit, Michigan as the first ever satellite office of the Patent and Trademark Office.

(d) PHASE-IN.—The Director shall satisfy the requirements of subsection (a) over the 3-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act.

(e) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than the end of the first fiscal year that occurs after the date of the enactment of this Act, and each fiscal year thereafter, the Director shall submit a report to Congress on—

(1) the rationale of the Director in selecting the locale of any satellite office required under subsection (a);

(2) the progress of the Director in establishing all such satellite offices; and

(3) whether the operation of existing satellite offices is achieving the purposes required under subsection (b).

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) DIRECTOR.—The term "Director" means the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

(2) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE.—The term "Patent and Trademark Office" means the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

On page 104, line 23, strike "SEC. 18." and insert "SEC. 19."

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Rules and Administration will meet on Tuesday, March 1, 2011, at 10 a.m., to conduct a markup of the Omnibus Budget for Senate Committees.

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Lynden Armstrong at the Rules and Administration Committee.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on February 28, 2011, at 5:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my DOD fel-

low, Julius Spain, Francie Powers, and Michael McLaughlin, be allowed to have floor privileges during the reading of Washington's Farewell Address.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Remy Yucel, a detailee in my office from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; Ron Rowe, a detailee in my office from the U.S. Secret Service; Ryika Hooshangi, a foreign affairs detailee in my office from the Department of State; LTC Jason Bartolomei, a military fellow in my office from the U.S. Air Force; Paul Williams, a detailee in my office from the Food and Drug Administration; Maureen McLaughlin, a detailee to the Senate Finance Committee from the Federal Communications Commission; and Jesse Baker, a detailee to the Senate Finance Committee from the U.S. Secret Service all be granted the privilege of the floor for the remainder of the first session of the 112th Congress.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FAA AIR TRANSPORTATION MODERNIZATION AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ACT

On Thursday, February 17, 2011, the Senate passed S. 223, as amended, as follows:

S. 223

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "FAA Air Transportation Modernization and Safety Improvement Act".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Amendments to title 49, United States Code.
Sec. 3. Effective date.

TITLE I—AUTHORIZATIONS

Sec. 101. Operations.
Sec. 102. Air navigation facilities and equipment.
Sec. 103. Research and development.
Sec. 104. Airport planning and development and noise compatibility planning and programs.
Sec. 105. Other aviation programs.
Sec. 106. Delineation of Next Generation Air Transportation System projects.
Sec. 107. Funding for administrative expenses for airport programs.

TITLE II—AIRPORT IMPROVEMENTS

Sec. 201. Reform of passenger facility charge authority.
Sec. 202. Passenger facility charge pilot program.
Sec. 203. Amendments to grant assurances.
Sec. 204. Government share of project costs.
Sec. 205. Amendments to allowable costs.
Sec. 206. Sale of private airport to public sponsor.
Sec. 207. Government share of certain air project costs.
Sec. 207(b). Prohibition on use of passenger facility charges to construct bicycle storage facilities.
Sec. 208. Miscellaneous amendments.

Sec. 209. State block grant program.
Sec. 210. Airport funding of special studies or reviews.
Sec. 211. Grant eligibility for assessment of flight procedures.
Sec. 212. Safety-critical airports.
Sec. 213. Environmental mitigation demonstration pilot program.
Sec. 214. Allowable project costs.
Sec. 215. Glycol recovery vehicles.
Sec. 216. Research improvement for aircraft.
Sec. 217. United States Territory minimum guarantee.
Sec. 218. Merrill Field Airport, Anchorage, Alaska.
Sec. 219. Release from restrictions.
Sec. 220. Designation of former military airports.
Sec. 221. Airport sustainability planning working group.
Sec. 222. Inclusion of measures to improve the efficiency of airport buildings in airport improvement projects.
Sec. 223. Study on apportioning amounts for airport improvement in proportion to amounts of air traffic.
Sec. 224. Use of mineral revenue at certain airports.

TITLE III—AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL MODERNIZATION AND FAA REFORM

Sec. 301. Air Traffic Control Modernization Oversight Board.
Sec. 302. NextGen management.
Sec. 303. Facilitation of next generation air traffic services.
Sec. 304. Clarification of authority to enter into reimbursable agreements.
Sec. 305. Clarification to acquisition reform authority.
Sec. 306. Assistance to other aviation authorities.
Sec. 307. Presidential rank award program.
Sec. 308. Next generation facilities needs assessment.
Sec. 309. Next generation air transportation system implementation office.
Sec. 310. Definition of air navigation facility.
Sec. 311. Improved management of property inventory.
Sec. 312. Educational requirements.
Sec. 313. FAA personnel management system.
Sec. 314. Acceleration of NextGen technologies.
Sec. 315. ADS-B development and implementation.
Sec. 316. Equipage incentives.
Sec. 317. Performance metrics.
Sec. 318. Certification standards and resources.
Sec. 319. Report on funding for NextGen technology.
Sec. 320. Unmanned aerial systems.
Sec. 321. Surface Systems Program Office.
Sec. 322. Stakeholder coordination.
Sec. 323. FAA task force on air traffic control facility conditions.
Sec. 324. State ADS-B equipage bank pilot program.
Sec. 325. Implementation of Inspector General ATC recommendations.
Sec. 326. Semiannual report on status of Greener Skies project.
Sec. 327. Definitions.
Sec. 328. Financial incentives for Nextgen Equipage.

TITLE IV—AIRLINE SERVICE AND SMALL COMMUNITY AIR SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS

SUBTITLE A—CONSUMER PROTECTION

Sec. 401. Airline customer service commitment.
Sec. 402. Publication of customer service data and flight delay history.