

Union Calendar No.

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2591

[Report No. 119-]

To require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to revise regulations for certain individuals carrying out aviation activities who disclose a mental health diagnosis or condition, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 2, 2025

Mr. CASTEN (for himself, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. MANN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

JUNE --, 2025

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on April 2, 2025]

A BILL

To require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to revise regulations for certain individuals carrying out aviation activities who disclose a mental health diagnosis or condition, 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 “Mental Health in Avia-*
5 *tion Act of 2025”.*

6 **SEC. 2. REGULATIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS CARRYING OUT**
7 **AVIATION ACTIVITIES.**

8 *(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the*
9 *date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the Fed-*
10 *eral Aviation Administration shall update regulations, in-*
11 *cluding in part 67 of title 14 of Code of Federal Regula-*
12 *tions, as appropriate, to encourage individuals to—*

13 *(1) seek help for mental health conditions or*
14 *symptoms of mental health conditions; and*

15 *(2) disclose conditions or symptoms described in*
16 *paragraph (1).*

17 *(b) CONSULTATION; REPORT REQUIREMENTS.—Sec-*
18 *tion 411(d) of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 (49*
19 *U.S.C. 44703 note(d)) is amended—*

20 *(1) in paragraph (4)—*

21 *(A) in subparagraph (A) by striking “and”*
22 *at the end;*

23 *(B) in subparagraph (B) by striking “and”*
24 *at the end;*

1 (C) in subparagraph (C) by striking the pe-
2 riod at the end and inserting a semicolon; and
3 (D) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(D) a review and evaluation of any rec-
5 ommendations reached by the National Trans-
6 portation Safety Board related to aviation work-
7 force mental health; and

8 “(E) a description of relevant clinical stud-
9 ies, research, diagnostic manuals, and protocols
10 used by the licensed professionals as of the date
11 of enactment of this Act.”; and

12 (2) by adding at the end the following:

13 “(5) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this sub-
14 section, the task group shall consult with relevant
15 stakeholders from the aviation and medical commu-
16 nities, as necessary, including—

17 “(A) the certified exclusive bargaining rep-
18 resentatives of air traffic controllers of the Ad-
19 ministration certified under section 7111 of title
20 5, United States Code;

21 “(B) organizations representing certified
22 collective bargaining representatives of airline
23 pilots;

1 “(C) aviation medical examiners, as de-
2 scribed in section 183.21 of title 14, Code of Fed-
3 eral Regulations; and

4 “(D) any other stakeholder determined rel-
5 evant by the task group, including any stake-
6 holders described in paragraph (3)(B).”.

7 (c) *IMPLEMENTATION.*—

8 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 180 days after
9 the submission of the report required under section
10 411(f) of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 (49
11 U.S.C. 44703 note), the Administrator shall take such
12 actions as are necessary to implement the mental
13 health-related recommendations of such report.

14 (2) *JUSTIFICATION.*—If the Administrator de-
15 cides not to implement any of the recommendations
16 described in paragraph (1), the Administrator shall
17 submit to the appropriate committees of Congress the
18 justification for such decision.

19 **SEC. 3. ANNUAL REVIEW OF MENTAL HEALTH SPECIAL**
20 **ISSUANCE PROCESS.**

21 *The Administrator shall conduct an annual review,*
22 *and update, as appropriate, the applicable regulations,*
23 *policies, orders, and guidance on mental health-related spe-*
24 *cial issuance for pilots and air traffic controllers to—*

1 (1) *reclassify and approve additional medica-*
2 *tions that may be safely prescribed to airmen to treat*
3 *mental health conditions;*

4 (2) *improve mental health knowledge and train-*
5 *ing for aviation medical examiners;*

6 (3) *if the Administrator determines appropriate,*
7 *delegate additional authority to aviation medical ex-*
8 *aminers consistent with the recommendation of the*
9 *Mental Health Aviation Rulemaking Committee de-*
10 *scribed in section 5; and*

11 (4) *improve the special issuance process for pi-*
12 *lots and air traffic controllers.*

13 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION FOR ADDI-**
14 **TIONAL AVIATION MEDICAL EXAMINERS.**

15 *Of the amounts made available pursuant to section*
16 *106(k)(1) of title 49, United States Code, the Administrator*
17 *shall set aside \$13,740,000 for each of fiscal years 2026*
18 *through 2028 to—*

19 (1) *recruit, select, train, and delegate the nec-*
20 *essary authorities to additional aviation medical ex-*
21 *aminers and human intervention motivation study*
22 *aviation medical examiners, including those who are*
23 *psychiatrists;*

24 (2) *expand capacity to provide oversight of avia-*
25 *tion medical examiners and clear the backlog of spe-*

1 *cial issuance requests and cases awaiting review at*
2 *the Office of Aerospace Medicine; and*

3 (3) *support any other related activities, as the*
4 *Administrator determines appropriate.*

5 **SEC. 5. IMPLEMENTATION OF AVIATION RULEMAKING COM-**
6 **MITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.**

7 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Not later than 2 years after the*
8 *date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall im-*
9 *plement, to the greatest extent practicable, the recommenda-*
10 *tions of the Mental Health and Aviation Medical Clearances*
11 *Aviation Rulemaking Committee which were submitted to*
12 *the Administrator on April 1, 2024.*

13 (b) *CONSULTATION.*—*In carrying out subsection (a),*
14 *the Administrator shall consult with the parties described*
15 *in section 411(d)(5) of the FAA Reauthorization Act of*
16 *2024 (as added by this Act).*

17 (c) *JUSTIFICATION.*—*If the Administrator decides not*
18 *to implement any of the recommendations described in sub-*
19 *section (a), the Administrator shall submit to the appro-*
20 *priate committees of Congress the justification for such deci-*
21 *sion.*

22 **SEC. 6. PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGN.**

23 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*Of the amounts made available*
24 *under section 106(k)(1) of title 49, United States Code, the*
25 *Administrator shall set aside \$1,500,000 for each of fiscal*

1 *years 2026 through 2028 for a public information cam-*
2 *paign or similar public education efforts to destigmatize in-*
3 *dividuals in (or interested in joining) the aviation industry*
4 *who seek mental health care, to broaden awareness of avail-*
5 *able supportive services, and establish trust with pilots and*
6 *air traffic controllers.*

7 **(b) REPORT.**—*Not later than 1 year after the Adminis-*
8 *trator creates the public information campaign described*
9 *in subsection (a), the Administrator shall submit to appro-*
10 *priate committees of Congress a report describing the ac-*
11 *tions taken to develop such campaign and the plans for im-*
12 *plementation.*

13 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

14 *In this Act:*

15 **(1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CONGRESS.**—
16 *The term “appropriate committees of Congress”*
17 *means—*

18 **(A)** *the Committee on Transportation and*
19 *Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;*
20 *and*

21 **(B)** *the Committee on Commerce, Science,*
22 *and Transportation of the Senate.*

23 **(2) SPECIAL ISSUANCE.**—*The term “special*
24 *issuance” has the meaning given the term in section*
25 *67.401 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations.*