

Bill Fact Sheet - December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/108/s/975

S 975

Essential Air Service Eligibility Fairness Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: May 1, 2003

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (May 1, 2003)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/senate-bill/975

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Specter, Arlen [R-PA]

Party: Republican • State: PA • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (1 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Santorum, Rick [R-PA]	$R \cdot PA$		May 1, 2003

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 1, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
108 HR 1944	Related bill	May 2, 2003: Referred to the Subcommittee on Aviation.

Essential Air Service Eligibility Fairness Act of 2003 - Amends Federal transportation law to revise eligibility requirements with respect to the provision of essential air service subsidies to communities in the 48 contiguous States to prohibit the Secretary of Transportation from providing such assistance to a community that is less than 70 miles from the nearest hub airport or requires a rate of subsidy per passenger in excess of \$200, unless such community is greater than 210 miles from the nearest hub airport. Repeals specified provisions of Federal laws with respect to such eligibility requirements. Authorizes a community in which the Secretary has eliminated subsidies or terminated subsidy eligibility (between September 30, 1993, and the enactment of this Act) under specified Federal laws to request the Secretary to review such action. Requires the Secretary after receiving a request for a review to: (1) determine whether the community would have been subject to such elimination of subsidies or termination of eligibility under the distance requirements provided in this Act; and (2) issue a final order with respect to the eligibility of such community for essential air service subsidies under the amended requirements of this Act.

Actions Timeline

- May 1, 2003: Introduced in Senate
- May 1, 2003: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S5666-5667)
- May 1, 2003: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.