

S 3536

Air Carriage of International Mail Act

**Congress:** 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Government Operations and Politics

**Introduced:** Sep 22, 2008

**Current Status:** Became Public Law No: 110-405.

**Latest Action:** Became Public Law No: 110-405. (Oct 13, 2008)

**Law:** 110-405 (Enacted Oct 13, 2008)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/senate-bill/3536>

Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Carper, Thomas R. [D-DE]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** DE • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Discharged From	Sep 27, 2008
Oversight and Government Reform Committee	House	Referred To	Sep 27, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

**(This measure has not been amended since it was introduced. The summary has been expanded because action occurred on the measure.)**

Air Carriage of International Mail Act - (Sec. 2) Authorizes the U.S. Postal Service to contract, through an open procurement process, for air transportation of mail between foreign points only with certificated air carriers (carriers that hold a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued under specified provisions). Allows a contract to be awarded to transport mail between any foreign points the Secretary of Transportation has authorized the carrier to serve either directly or through a code-share relationship.

Requires that the Postal Service use a method for determining fair and reasonable prices developed in consultation with, and with the concurrence of, certificated air carriers representing at least 51% of available ton miles in the markets of interest. Presumes ceiling prices determined by that method to be fair and reasonable if they do not exceed the ceiling prices derived from a weighted average based on market rate data furnished by the International Air Transport Association (or its subsidiary unit) or such other neutral weighted average market rates as the Postal Service, with the concurrence of such air carriers representing at least 51% of available ton miles, may designate.

Provides for exceptions for emergency or unanticipated conditions or inadequate lift space.

Removes provisions requiring that the Secretary of Transportation set prices to be paid by the Postal Service for the transportation of mail by aircraft in foreign air transportation.

Removes references to foreign air transportation from provisions relating to a duty to provide certain transportation of mail.

Authorizes the Postal Service to weigh mail transported by aircraft between places in Alaska and make statistical and administrative computations necessary in the interest of mail service. (Current law does not restrict that authorization to flights between places in Alaska.)

Removes a requirement that the Postal Service make a fair and equitable distribution of mail business to carriers providing similar modes of transportation.

Modifies provisions regarding the mail of members of the U.S. Armed Forces and of friendly foreign nations.

## Actions Timeline

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- **Oct 13, 2008:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 13, 2008:** Became Public Law No: 110-405.
- **Oct 3, 2008:** Presented to President.
- **Sep 29, 2008:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H10631)
- **Sep 29, 2008:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR 9/27/2008 H10206-10207)
- **Sep 29, 2008:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR 9/27/2008 H10206-10207)
- **Sep 29, 2008:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 29, 2008:** Cleared for White House.
- **Sep 27, 2008:** Received in the House.
- **Sep 27, 2008:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Sep 27, 2008:** Referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.
- **Sep 27, 2008:** Mr. Clay moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Sep 27, 2008:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H10206-10208)
- **Sep 27, 2008:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 3536.
- **Sep 27, 2008:** At the conclusion of debate, the chair put the question on the motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Davis, Tom objected to the vote on the grounds that a quorum was not present. Further proceedings on the motion were postponed. The point of no quorum was withdrawn.
- **Sep 26, 2008:** Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs discharged by Unanimous Consent.
- **Sep 26, 2008:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S9865-9866; text as passed Senate: CR S9865-9866)
- **Sep 26, 2008:** Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S9865-9866; text as passed Senate: CR S9865-9866)
- **Sep 22, 2008:** Introduced in Senate
- **Sep 22, 2008:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.