

S 1318

Air Carrier Access Amendments Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: Jun 8, 2017

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. (Jun 8, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1318>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Baldwin, Tammy [D-WI]

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

Cosponsors (7 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]	D · CT		Jun 8, 2017
Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]	D · IL		Jun 8, 2017
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Jun 8, 2017
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jun 8, 2017
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jun 28, 2017
Sen. Warren, Elizabeth [D-MA]	D · MA		Jun 26, 2018
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Jul 31, 2018

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jun 8, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 5004	Related bill	Feb 14, 2018: Referred to the Subcommittee on Aviation.

Air Carrier Access Amendments Act of 2017

This bill expands provisions prohibiting discrimination against disabled individuals by an air carrier. Specifically, it enumerates certain actions that an air carrier must take or may not take with respect to a disabled individual. It also requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) to ensure that disabled individuals traveling in air transportation are able to file complaints with DOT in response to disability-related discrimination and receive assistance from DOT through a hotline or comparable electronic means.

The bill authorizes an aggrieved individual and the Department of Justice to bring a civil action for discrimination. The civil penalty for damage for discrimination involving damage to a wheelchair or other mobility aid of a disabled passenger may be increased up to three times the maximum penalty otherwise allowed.

The Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board shall prescribe regulations for aircraft with new or existing type certificates to ensure the accessibility of individuals with disabilities. The board shall: (1) conduct a study to determine the ways in which individuals with significant disabilities who use wheelchairs can be accommodated through in-cabin wheelchair restraint systems, and (2) issue minimum guidelines for such systems.

DOT shall: (1) prescribe or revise regulations to ensure that individuals with disabilities who request assistance receive timely and effective assistance at airports and on aircraft from trained personnel, (2) develop an Airline Passengers with Disabilities Bill of Rights, and (3) establish an advisory committee for air travel needs of passengers with disabilities.

Actions Timeline

- **Jun 8, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 8, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.