

## S 1405

Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2017

**Congress:** 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Transportation and Public Works

**Introduced:** Jun 22, 2017

**Current Status:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 407.

**Latest Action:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 407. (May 9, 2018)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1405>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** SD • **Chamber:** Senate

### Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Blunt, Roy [R-MO]	R · MO		Jun 22, 2017
Sen. Cantwell, Maria [D-WA]	D · WA		Jun 22, 2017
Sen. Nelson, Bill [D-FL]	D · FL		Jun 22, 2017

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	May 9, 2018

### Subjects & Policy Tags

**Policy Area:**

Transportation and Public Works

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
115 HR 7045	Related bill	<b>Oct 5, 2018:</b> Referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.
115 S 3183	Related bill	<b>Jul 9, 2018:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
115 HR 4319	Related bill	<b>Nov 13, 2017:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit.
115 HR 4102	Related bill	<b>Oct 25, 2017:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Aviation.
115 HR 3644	Related bill	<b>Sep 21, 2017:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.
115 S 1755	Related bill	<b>Aug 3, 2017:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
115 S 1450	Related bill	<b>Jun 28, 2017:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
115 S 1394	Related bill	<b>Jun 21, 2017:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
115 HR 2879	Related bill	<b>Jun 13, 2017:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Aviation.
115 S 1320	Related bill	<b>Jun 8, 2017:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
115 S 1110	Related bill	<b>May 11, 2017:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
115 HR 2375	Related bill	<b>May 5, 2017:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Aviation.
115 S 947	Related bill	<b>Apr 26, 2017:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
115 HR 2107	Related bill	<b>Apr 21, 2017:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Aviation.
115 S 755	Related bill	<b>Mar 29, 2017:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.
115 HR 973	Related bill	<b>Feb 8, 2017:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Aviation.
115 S 320	Related bill	<b>Feb 6, 2017:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S746-747; text of measure as introduced: CR S747)

## **Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization Act of 2017**

This bill reauthorizes through FY2021 the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and specified FAA programs.

The bill revises requirements for the airport improvement program and pilot program for passenger facility charges at nonhub airports.

### *Forward Looking Investment in General Aviation, Hangars, and Tarmacs Act of 2017 or the FLIGHT Act of 2017*

The Department of Transportation (DOT) shall implement an expedited and coordinated environmental review process for general aviation airport construction or improvement projects.

DOT shall establish a public-private partnership program for building or improving hangars, businesses, or other facilities at:

- general aviation airports, and
- privately owned airports for public use that do not have scheduled air service.

The Government Accountability Office shall review privacy issues and concerns associated with the operation of unmanned aircraft (drones) in the national airspace system.

The FAA shall establish a process for the acceptance of risk-based, consensus safety standards for the safe integration of small drones into such system.

DOT shall issue guidance for the operation of public drones.

The FAA shall develop a plan for the deployment of technologies to detect and mitigate potential airspace safety threats posed by drones.

### *Drone Operator Safety Act*

The bill amends the federal criminal code to make it a crime to operate a drone that knowingly or recklessly interferes with or disrupts the operation of an aircraft carrying one or more occupants in U.S. airspace.

DOT shall establish a Safety Oversight and Certification Advisory Committee.

The FAA shall take specified actions to improve airline passenger safety.

### *Commercial Balloon Pilot Safety Act of 2017*

The bill directs the FAA to revise federal regulations to apply medical certificate of physical fitness requirements that are applicable to pilot flight crewmembers to operators of air balloons.

### *Fairness for Pilots Act*

The bill amends the Pilot's Bill of Rights to revise the authorization for appeal to a federal court by a substantially affected individual from a decision of the National Transportation Safety Board to uphold an adverse FAA order or final decision.

The bill specifies the suspension or revocation of an airman certificate as the punitive civil action which may be appealed.

A U.S. district court shall review de novo an FAA denial, suspension, or revocation of an airman certificate.

The bill prescribes certain requirements with respect to improving passenger air service.

#### *Transparency Improvements and Compensation to Keep Every Ticketholder Safe Act of 2017 or the TICKETS Act*

The bill prescribes requirements to prohibit an air carrier from denying an air passenger from boarding a flight without the consent of the passenger cleared to board such flight unless such passenger presents a safety, security, or health risk, to oneself or others, or engages in obscene, disruptive, or unlawful behavior.

The bill reauthorizes through FY2021 the essential air service program and the small community air service development program.

#### *NextGen Accountability Act*

The bill amends the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012 to direct the FAA to establish annual NextGen (i.e., Next Generation Air Transportation System) performance goals for each of the national airspace system performance metrics to meet identified performance metric baselines with respect to NextGen projects.

#### *Saracini Aviation Safety Act of 2017*

The FAA shall issue an order requiring the installation of a secondary cockpit barrier on each new aircraft that is manufactured for delivery to a U.S. passenger air carrier.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **May 9, 2018:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Thune with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 115-243. Supplemental views filed.
- **May 9, 2018:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 407.
- **Jun 29, 2017:** Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with an amendment in the nature of a substitute favorably.
- **Jun 22, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jun 22, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.