

S 1459

MOBILE Act

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Transportation and Public Works

Introduced: May 4, 2023

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 4, 2023)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/1459

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Duckworth, Tammy [D-IL]

Party: Democratic • State: IL • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (4 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Thune, John [R-SD]	R · SD		May 4, 2023
Sen. Feinstein, Dianne [D-CA]	D · CA		Jun 14, 2023
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Jun 14, 2023
Sen. Kelly, Mark [D-AZ]	D · AZ		Sep 28, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 4, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 3935	Related bill	May 16, 2024: Became Public Law No: 118-63.
118 S 1939	Related bill	Feb 29, 2024: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 335.
118 HR 3082	Identical bill	May 8, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Aviation.

Mobility Aids On Board Improve Lives and Empower All Act or the MOBILE Act

This bill directs the Department of Transportation (DOT) to issue regulations related to the accommodations that air carriers and foreign air carriers make for passengers with wheelchairs (including power wheelchairs, manual wheelchairs, and scooters); DOT must also develop a road map and study the issue.

Specifically, air carriers must publish the dimensions of aircraft cargo holds. An air carrier must offer a full refund to an individual with a disability who is traveling with a wheelchair and cannot fly on the existing aircraft because the cargo hold cannot physically accommodate the wheelchair.

DOT must also

- evaluate data on the mishandling of wheelchairs on aircraft (e.g., damages, delays, or loss) and submit a publicly available report to Congress, which must include DOT's plans to address issues in the report;
- submit a strategic road map to Congress describing how DOT and the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board (the Access Board) will establish a research program on the feasibility of main cabin wheelchair restraint systems; and
- study, if DOT first determines doing so would be technically feasible, the economic and financial feasibility of air carriers accommodating passengers with wheelchairs in the main cabin during flight.

Actions Timeline

- **May 4, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 4, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.