

## S 178

### Airline Passengers' Bill of Rights

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Transportation and Public Works

**Introduced:** Jan 31, 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. (Jan 31, 2023)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/178>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Blumenthal, Richard [D-CT]

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

### Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Casey, Robert P., Jr. [D-PA]	D · PA		Jan 31, 2023
Sen. Markey, Edward J. [D-MA]	D · MA		Jan 31, 2023
Sen. Sanders, Bernard [I-VT]	I · VT		Jan 31, 2023
Sen. Whitehouse, Sheldon [D-RI]	D · RI		Jan 31, 2023
Sen. Wyden, Ron [D-OR]	D · OR		Jan 31, 2023
Sen. Merkley, Jeff [D-OR]	D · OR		Feb 14, 2023
Sen. Fetterman, John [D-PA]	D · PA		Mar 9, 2023
Sen. Murphy, Christopher [D-CT]	D · CT		May 10, 2023

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Referred To	Jan 31, 2023

### Subjects & Policy Tags

#### Policy Area:

Transportation and Public Works

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 659	Related bill	<b>Feb 1, 2023:</b> Referred to the Subcommittee on Aviation.
118 S 209	Related bill	<b>Feb 1, 2023:</b> Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

## **Airline Passengers' Bill of Rights**

This bill expands protections for passengers in air transportation.

Among other things, the bill requires the Department of Transportation to implement regulations relating to

- protections for airline passengers from being required to involuntarily relinquish their seats, unless necessary for safety or security;
- the elimination of the dollar limitations on compensation to passengers denied boarding due to overbooking;
- compensation to passengers for delayed or cancelled flights;
- interline agreements between air carriers and other transportation providers;
- training on the rights of passengers;
- unreasonable air carrier fees;
- unrestricted access of consumers to information on schedules, fares, fees, and taxes;
- accuracy in pricing of tickets and disclosure of lowest fares; and
- notifications to passengers of their rights and eligibility for refunds.

The Federal Aviation Administration must (1) prohibit any air carrier from reducing seat size or leg room, and (2) report on the quality of food and potable water on passenger aircraft and the sufficiency of flight crews and aircraft.

The bill provides a private right of action for passengers aggrieved by airline actions and increases civil penalties on air carriers for violations of passenger protections.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jan 31, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 31, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.