

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1187

To modify the requirements for the registration of certain aircraft, and  
for other purposes.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 24, 2023

Mr. LYNCH introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee  
on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To modify the requirements for the registration of certain  
aircraft, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Civil Aviation Security  
5 and Safety Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF REGISTRATION AP-**  
7 **PLICATIONS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator, in consulta-  
9 tion with the Drug Enforcement Administration of the De-  
10 partment of Justice, Homeland Security Investigations of

1 the Department of Homeland Security, the Office of For-  
2 eign Assets Control of the Department of Treasury, the  
3 National Transportation Safety Board, and the Office of  
4 the Inspector General of the Department of Transpor-  
5 tation, shall conduct a comprehensive review of the process  
6 under which the Administration reviews and approves air-  
7 craft registration applications and dealer certifications  
8 under chapter 441 of title 49, United States Code.

9 (b) CONTENTS OF REVIEW.—The review under sub-  
10 section (a) shall include the identification of criminal, na-  
11 tional security, or safety risks arising from the Civil Avia-  
12 tion Registry process under chapter 441 of title 49, United  
13 States Code.

14 (c) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 180 days  
15 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator  
16 shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and In-  
17 frastructure and the Committee on Financial Services of  
18 the House of Representatives and the Committee on Com-  
19 merce, Science, and Transportation and the Committee on  
20 Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate a re-  
21 port describing the results of the review under subsection  
22 (a).

23 (d) REGULATIONS REQUIRED.—Not later than 180  
24 days after the submission of the report under subsection  
25 (c), the Administrator shall issue such regulations as are

1 necessary to require the collection and recording of any  
2 personal identifiable information identified under the com-  
3 prehensive review under subsection (a) determined to be  
4 reasonably necessary for the mitigation of criminal, na-  
5 tional security, or safety risks under chapter 441 of title  
6 49, United States Code.

7 **SEC. 3. REGISTRATION OF AIRCRAFT.**

8 Section 44102 of title 49, United States Code, is  
9 amended by adding at the end the following:

10 “(c) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Each owner of an aircraft  
12 submitting an application under this section shall in-  
13 clude the name, address, date of birth, driver’s li-  
14 cense or pilot’s license (or both if applicable), and  
15 applicant photos in the submission of such applica-  
16 tion.

17 “(2) SUBMISSION BY ENTITY.—Each entity  
18 that is not publicly traded submitting an application  
19 under this section shall include—

20 “(A) the name, date of birth, physical ad-  
21 dress, and driver’s license or pilot’s license (or  
22 both if applicable), and applicant photos for  
23 each individual that owns more than 25 percent  
24 of the aircraft in the submission of such appli-  
25 cation; and

1           “(B) the name, physical address, State of  
2           residence, and taxpayer identification number  
3           for each entity that owns more than 25 percent  
4           of the aircraft in the submission of such appli-  
5           cation.

6           “(d) REVIEW OF INFORMATION.—Beginning on the  
7           date of enactment of the Civil Aviation Security and Safe-  
8           ty Act of 2023, the Administrator shall review Office of  
9           Foreign Assets Control sanctions data on individuals and  
10          entities described in subsection (c) with potentially signifi-  
11          cant responsibilities for aircraft ownership for coordina-  
12          tion with the Office of Foreign Assets Control in order  
13          to identify Office of Foreign Assets Control-sanctioned ap-  
14          plicants to the Office of Foreign Assets Control before  
15          issuing a registration or dealer certificate under this chap-  
16          ter.

17          “(e) RESTRICTION OF CERTAIN ENTITIES.—Not-  
18          withstanding any other provision of this chapter, the Ad-  
19          ministrator may not issue a registration or dealer certifi-  
20          cate under this chapter to any individual or entity listed  
21          on the sanctions list of the Office of Foreign Assets Con-  
22          trol.”.

23       **SEC. 4. REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS.**

24          Section 44103 of title 49, United States Code, is  
25          amended by adding at the end the following:

1       “(e) VERIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY.—Beginning on  
2 the date of enactment of the Civil Aviation Security and  
3 Safety Act of 2023, the Administrator shall ensure that  
4 all eligibility and registration information provided in an  
5 application for an aircraft under this chapter is true and  
6 correct and any deficiency described in subsection (f) is  
7 addressed before issuing a registration or dealer certificate  
8 under this chapter.

9       “(f) AUTHORITY TO MAKE MODIFICATIONS.—The  
10 Administrator shall make modifications in the application  
11 process under this chapter necessary to make the process  
12 more effective in serving the needs of—

13               “(1) buyers and sellers of aircraft;

14               “(2) officials responsible for enforcing laws re-  
15 lated to the regulation of controlled substances (as  
16 defined in section 102 of the Comprehensive Drug  
17 Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970 (21  
18 U.S.C. 802)); and

19               “(3) other users of the process.

20       “(g) NATURE OF MODIFICATIONS.—Modifications  
21 made under subsection (e) of this section—

22               “(1) may include a system of titling aircraft or  
23 registering all aircraft, even aircraft not operated;

24               “(2) shall ensure positive, verifiable, and timely  
25 identification of the true owner; and

1           “(3) shall address at least each of the following  
2 deficiencies in and abuses of the existing system:

3           “(A) The registration of aircraft to ficti-  
4 tious persons.

5           “(B) The use of false or nonexistent ad-  
6 dresses by persons registering aircraft.

7           “(C) The use by a person registering an  
8 aircraft of a post office box or ‘mail drop’ as a  
9 return address to evade identification of the  
10 person’s address.

11           “(D) The registration of aircraft to entities  
12 established to facilitate unlawful activities.

13           “(E) The submission of names of individ-  
14 uals on applications for registration of aircraft  
15 that are not identifiable.

16           “(F) The ability to make frequent legal  
17 changes in the registration markings assigned  
18 to aircraft.

19           “(G) The use of false registration mark-  
20 ings on aircraft.

21           “(H) The illegal use of ‘reserved’ registra-  
22 tion markings on aircraft.

23           “(I) The large number of aircraft classified  
24 as being in ‘self-reported status’.

1           “(J) The lack of a system to ensure timely  
2           and adequate notice of the transfer of owner-  
3           ship of aircraft.

4           “(K) The practice of allowing temporary  
5           operation and navigation of aircraft without the  
6           issuance of a certificate of registration.”.

7   **SEC. 5. REGISTRATION FEES.**

8           Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment  
9           of this Act, the Administrator shall issue such regulations  
10          as are necessary to increase the fees for registration of  
11          an aircraft under section 44103 of title 49, United States  
12          Code, to a level sufficient to cover the costs of efforts of  
13          the Administration to collect and verify applicant data and  
14          to cover the costs of inflation (to reflect the change in the  
15          Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers).

16   **SEC. 6. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION.**

17          In carrying out this Act, the Administrator shall en-  
18          sure that, as the Administration undertakes information  
19          technology modernization efforts, the information collected  
20          in ancillary files or in PDF format on owners and related  
21          individuals and entities with potentially significant respon-  
22          sibilities for aircraft ownership (including beneficial own-  
23          ers (as such term is defined in section 5901 of title 49,  
24          United States Code), trustors, trustees, beneficiaries,  
25          stockholders, directors, and managers) and declaration of

1 international operations are recorded in an electronic for-  
2 mat that facilitates data analytics by the Administration  
3 and relevant Federal national security, law enforcement,  
4 and public safety agencies. The Administrator shall ensure  
5 that such information is linked through a common identi-  
6 fier. The Administrator shall ensure that modernization  
7 efforts include the development and implementation of a  
8 process by which the Administration may easily review rel-  
9 evant Office of Foreign Asset Control sanctions data on  
10 registration and dealer certificate applicants under section  
11 44103 of title 49, United States Code, and flag sanctioned  
12 applicants for such Office.

13 **SEC. 7. INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS.**

14       The Administrator shall provide to the Drug Enforce-  
15 ment Administration and Homeland Security Investiga-  
16 tions declarations of international operations of the Fed-  
17 eral Aviation Administration to maximize the ability of  
18 Federal national security and law enforcement agencies to  
19 assist the Administration in preventing use of the Civil  
20 Aviation Registry for illicit purposes and detect trade-  
21 based money laundering and other cross-border schemes.

22 **SEC. 8. SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATES.**

23       Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment  
24 of this Act, the Administrator shall issue such regulations  
25 as are necessary to implement an enforcement mechanism



1 for suspending and revoking dealer certificates under  
2 chapter 441 of title 49, United States Code.

3 **SEC. 9. AIRCRAFT REGISTRY TASK FORCE.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 30 days after  
5 the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall  
6 establish an Aircraft Registry Task Force (in this section  
7 referred to as the “Task Force”) to examine national se-  
8 curity, law enforcement, and public safety issues related  
9 to civil aircraft registration and developing solutions to  
10 mitigate security and safety risks and increase inter-agen-  
11 cy cooperation.

12 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—The Task Force shall include—

13 (1) the Administrator of the Administration;

14 and

15 (2) representatives of—

16 (A) the Drug Enforcement Administration;

17 (B) Homeland Security Investigations;

18 (C) the Office of Foreign Asset Control;

19 and

20 (D) any other Federal national security,

21 law enforcement, or public safety entity deter-

22 mined necessary by the Administrator to facili-

23 tate the task force’s mission.

1           (c) TERMINATION.—The Task Force under this sec-  
2 tion shall not terminate.

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