

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 525

To amend title 49, United States Code, to ensure that a child can sit next to a family member on a flight at no additional cost.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 16, 2023

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to ensure that a child can sit next to a family member on a flight at no additional cost.

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 “Families Fly Together
5 Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. ENSURING THAT A CHILD CAN SIT NEXT TO A FAM-**
 2 **ILY MEMBER ON A FLIGHT AT NO ADDI-**
 3 **TIONAL COST.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 417 of
 5 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
 6 end the following:

7 **“§ 41727. Ensuring that a child can sit next to a fam-**
 8 **ily member on a flight at no additional**
 9 **cost**

10 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date that is 6
 11 months after the date of enactment of this section, each
 12 air carrier providing air transportation shall ensure that
 13 a child, who is age 13 or under on the date the flight
 14 is scheduled to occur, is able to be seated in a seat adja-
 15 cent to the seat of an accompanying family member at
 16 no additional cost to the base fare price.

17 “(b) INVESTIGATIONS OF COMPLAINTS.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Transpor-
 19 tation shall investigate each complaint of a violation
 20 of the requirement under subsection (a).

21 “(2) PUBLICATION OF DATA.—The Secretary of
 22 Transportation shall publish data on complaints of
 23 violations of the requirement under subsection (a) in
 24 a manner comparable to other consumer complaint
 25 data.

1 “(c) FAMILY MEMBER.—For purposes of subsection
2 (a), the term ‘family member’ means, with respect to a
3 child described in such subsection, an individual who is—

4 “(1) 16 years of age or older; and

5 “(2) responsible for accompanying such child,
6 including a parent or legal guardian of such child.”.

7 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
8 ter 417 of such title is amended by inserting after the
9 item relating to section 41726 the following:

“41727. Ensuring that a child can sit next to a family member on a flight at
no additional cost.”.

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