

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2466

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Transportation to consider the cost of providing basic essential air service when selecting applicants for the essential air service program, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 3, 2023

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

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Transportation to consider the cost of providing basic essential air service when selecting applicants for the essential air service program, 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 “Essential Air Service
5 Reform Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. BASIC ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE.**

7 Section 41732(b) of title 49, United States Code, is
8 amended—

1 (1) by striking paragraph (5); and

2 (2) by redesignating paragraph (6) as para-
3 graph (5).

4 **SEC. 3. AVAILABILITY OF COMPENSATION.**

5 Section 41733(c)(1) of title 49, United States Code,
6 is amended—

7 (1) in subparagraph (D) by striking “, giving
8 substantial weight to the views of the elected offi-
9 cials representing the users”;

10 (2) in subparagraph (E) by striking “and” at
11 the end;

12 (3) in subparagraph (F) by striking the period
13 at the end and inserting “; and’ ” and

14 (4) by adding at the end the following:

15 “(G) the overall cost of the bid submitted by
16 the applicant to provide basic essential air service to
17 the eligible place.”.

18 **SEC. 4. NOTIFICATION TO CONGRESS.**

19 Upon entering into an essential air service contract
20 with an air carrier under subchapter II of chapter 417
21 of title 49, United States Code, the Secretary of Transpor-
22 tation shall submit to the Committee on Transportation
23 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and
24 the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
25 of the Senate a notification that the Secretary has entered

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1 into such contract and an explanation for awarding such
2 contract.

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