		(Original Signature of Member)
116TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION	H.R.	

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for aviation system enhancements during public health emergencies, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. DeFazio (for himself and Mr. Larsen of Washington) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for aviation system enhancements during public health emergencies, 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.
- This Act may be cited as the "Healthy Flights Act
- 5 of 2020".

1 SEC. 2. AVIATION SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS DURING PUB-

- 2 LIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES.
- 3 (a) Public Health Emergencies.—Part E of sub-
- 4 title VII of title 49, United States Code, is amended by
- 5 adding at the end the following:

6 **"CHAPTER 502—PUBLIC HEALTH**

7 EMERGENCIES

- "50201. Authority of the FAA Administrator.
- "50202. Protective masks among airline passengers on board aircraft during public health emergencies.
- "50203. Protective masks in airports during public health emergencies.
- "50204. Protective masks and equipment among air carrier employees during public health emergencies.
- "50205. Protection of certain Federal Aviation Administration employees during public health emergencies.
- "50206. National plan for aviation system preparedness.
- "50207. Definitions.

8 "§ 50201. Authority of the FAA Administrator

- 9 "With respect to the occurrence of a pandemic or epi-
- 10 demic of an infectious disease, the Administrator shall
- 11 have authority to impose, by emergency order or other-
- 12 wise, such requirements related to the operation of a pas-
- 13 senger or cargo aircraft of an air carrier in air transpor-
- 14 tation as the Administrator determines are necessary to
- 15 protect the health and safety of air carrier crewmembers
- 16 and passengers and to reduce the spread of such infectious
- 17 disease through the aviation system.

1	"§ 50202. Protective masks among airline passengers
2	on board aircraft during public health
3	emergencies
4	"(a) In General.—During the period of any na-
5	tional emergency declared by the President under the Na-
6	tional Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) with re-
7	spect to an airborne disease, each air carrier operating
8	under part 121 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations,
9	shall require each passenger of such air carrier to wear
10	a mask or protective face covering while such passenger
11	is on board an aircraft of such air carrier.
12	"(b) Responsibilities.—
13	"(1) Air carrier responsibilities.—An air
14	carrier operating under part 121 of title 14, Code of
15	Federal Regulations, shall—
16	"(A) notify the Administrator within 7
17	days of each instance in which a passenger vio-
18	lates the requirement of subsection (a) without
19	a valid exception from such requirements under
20	subsection (c) or subsection (d)(3) by providing
21	the Administrator with such information re-
22	garding a violation as the Administrator may
23	require;
24	"(B) designate an appropriate office or de-
25	partment of the air carrier to receive notifica-
26	tions from crewmembers under paragraph (2)

1	and to provide information to the Administrator
2	in accordance with this subsection; and
3	"(C) provide flight and cabin crewmembers
4	with specific, easily followed instructions for
5	contacting the office or department described in
6	subparagraph (B) with a notification under
7	paragraph (2).
8	"(2) Crewmember responsibilities.—Not
9	later than the termination of passenger disembarka-
10	tion from an aircraft described in subsection (a), the
11	flight or cabin crew of such aircraft shall notify an
12	employee of the air carrier office or department des-
13	ignated under paragraph (1) of a violation of the re-
14	quirements of subsection (a) and shall provide infor-
15	mation necessary to identify the passenger who com-
16	mitted such violation. For purposes of this sub-
17	section, a notification shall not include removal of a
18	mask or face covering pursuant to an exception
19	under subsection (c) or subsection (d)(3).
20	"(c) Exceptions.—An air carrier may allow an indi-
21	vidual to temporarily remove a mask or face covering re-
22	quired under subsection (a) only—
23	"(1) while consuming food or beverage;
24	"(2) to address a medical need that justifies
25	temporary removal of the mask or face covering:

1	"(3) to don a supplemental oxygen mask in the
2	event of a reduction in the pressure altitude inside
3	the cabin of an aircraft; or
4	"(4) for another reason identified by the Ad-
5	ministrator in a regulation issued pursuant to this
6	section.
7	"(d) Responsibilities to Individuals With Dis-
8	ABILITIES.—
9	"(1) Relationship to other laws.—Noth-
10	ing in this section shall be construed to abridge any
11	right, or excuse the performance of any duty, arising
12	under section 41705 of this title or regulations pro-
13	mulgated pursuant to such section, including the
14	duty of an air carrier to assist passengers covered
15	under such section.
16	"(2) Additional duties of air carriers.—
17	Each air carrier shall require employees and con-
18	tractors of such air carrier to provide assistance to
19	an individual described in section 41705(a) who re-
20	quires such assistance—
21	"(A) in donning or removing a mask or
22	face covering required under subsection (a);
23	"(B) in disinfecting or sanitizing an aisle
24	chair, an airport push chair, or personal mobil-
25	ity aid or other device, if such personal mobility

1	aid or other device was tendered to the air car-
2	rier for a flight and delivered to the individual
3	after the flight's arrival;
4	"(C) in taking any other reasonable meas-
5	ures, consistent with any applicable guidelines
6	of the Centers for Disease Control and Preven-
7	tion, necessary for the individual to reduce the
8	chance of infection with an airborne disease;
9	and
10	"(D) in complying with any legal, air car-
11	rier, or airport requirement intended to reduce
12	the spread of an airborne disease.
13	"(3) LIMITED EXCEPTION.—With respect to an
14	individual covered under section 41705 who is un-
15	able to wear a mask or face covering and objects to
16	such a requirement, an air carrier may deny board-
17	ing to such individual for a flight in air transpor-
18	tation only if such air carrier performs the individ-
19	ualized analysis described under section 382.19(c) of
20	title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, and concludes
21	that the individual poses a direct threat pursuant to
22	such analysis. Each air carrier shall develop policies
23	and procedures to ensure that—
24	"(A) the outcome of such analysis is reli-
25	able, including through consultation with a

1	medical consulting or advisory service to deter-
2	mine whether the individual poses a risk to oth-
3	ers;
4	"(B) the individual and the air carrier's
5	employees or contractors are afforded an appro-
6	priate amount of time for such analysis before
7	departure of a flight; and
8	"(C) with respect to any individual who is
9	permitted to board a flight without a mask or
10	protective face covering, other reasonable meas-
11	ures are available to minimize the individual's
12	risk of infection and the risk of the individual
13	spreading the airborne disease.
14	"(e) Savings Provision.—Nothing in this section
15	shall be construed to prioritize any interest over the public
16	interest in aviation safety or the health and safety of air
17	carrier employees or contractors.
18	"§ 50203. Protective masks in airports during public
19	health emergencies
20	"(a) In General.—During the period of any na-
21	tional emergency declared by the President under the Na-
22	tional Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) with re-
23	spect to an airborne disease, the operator of a covered air-
24	port shall require that any individual within any indoor
25	public space on the airport premises and under the control

1	of such operator is wearing a mask or other protective face
2	covering except when such individual—
3	"(1) is consuming food or beverage;
4	"(2) is attending to a medical need that justi-
5	fies temporary removal of the mask or face covering;
6	"(3) is directed to remove a mask or face cov-
7	ering by an air carrier employee, a law enforcement
8	officer, or a person performing functions governed
9	under chapter 449; or
10	"(4) has another reason identified by the Ad-
11	ministrator in any regulations promulgated under
12	this section.
13	"(b) Responsibilities to Individuals With Dis-
14	ABILITIES.—
15	"(1) Relationship to other laws.—Noth-
16	ing in this section shall be construed to abridge any
17	right, or excuse the performance of any duty, arising
18	under any applicable requirements of chapter 126 of
19	title 42 or, to the extent applicable, section 41705
20	of this title or regulations issued pursuant to such
21	chapter or section.
22	"(2) Additional duties of airport oper-
23	ATOR.—If an employee or contractor of an airport
24	operator is providing assistance to an air carrier
25	passenger covered under chapter 126 of title 42 or

1	section 41705 of this title, such employee or con-
2	tractor shall assist such individual—
3	"(A) in donning or removing a mask or
4	face covering required under subsection (a);
5	"(B) in taking any reasonable measures,
6	consistent with any applicable guidelines of the
7	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
8	necessary for the individual to reduce the
9	chance of infection with the disease; and
10	"(C) in complying with any legal, air car-
11	rier, or airport requirement intended to reduce
12	the spread of the disease.
13	"§ 50204. Protective masks and equipment among air
	"§ 50204. Protective masks and equipment among air carrier employees during public health
14	
13 14 15 16	carrier employees during public health
141516	carrier employees during public health emergencies
14151617	carrier employees during public health emergencies "(a) IN GENERAL.—During the period of any na-
14 15 16 17 18	carrier employees during public health emergencies "(a) IN GENERAL.—During the period of any national emergency declared by the President under the National
14 15 16 17 18	carrier employees during public health emergencies "(a) IN GENERAL.—During the period of any national emergency declared by the President under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) with re-
14 15 16 17 18	carrier employees during public health emergencies "(a) IN GENERAL.—During the period of any national emergency declared by the President under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) with respect to an airborne disease, each air carrier operating
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	carrier employees during public health emergencies "(a) IN GENERAL.—During the period of any national emergency declared by the President under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) with respect to an airborne disease, each air carrier operating under part 121 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations,
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	carrier employees during public health emergencies "(a) IN GENERAL.—During the period of any national emergency declared by the President under the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) with respect to an airborne disease, each air carrier operating under part 121 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, shall—

1	shield while on board an aircraft or in a vehicle of
2	the air carrier;
3	"(2) require each flight crewmember to wear a
4	mask or protective face covering and permit such
5	crewmember to wear protective eyewear or a face
6	shield while on board an aircraft but outside the
7	flight deck of the air carrier or in a vehicle of the
8	air carrier;
9	"(3) require each employee or contractor of the
10	air carrier to wear a mask or protective face cov-
11	ering while within any indoor public space of a cov-
12	ered airport;
13	"(4) submit to the Administrator a proposal to
14	permit flight crewmembers of the air carrier to wear
15	a mask or protective face covering while at their sta-
16	tions in the flight deck of an aircraft of the air car-
17	rier, including a safety risk assessment with respect
18	to such proposal;
19	"(5) provide flight and cabin crewmembers, air-
20	port customer service agents, and other employees
21	whose job responsibilities involve interaction with
22	passengers with masks or protective face coverings,
23	gloves, and hand sanitizer and wipes with sufficient
24	alcohol content, and provide training on the proper
25	use of such items and equipment;

1	"(6) ensure aircraft, including the cockpit and
2	cabin, operated by such carrier are cleaned, dis-
3	infected, and sanitized by cleaners who are not flight
4	or cabin crewmembers after each use in accordance
5	with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
6	guidance;
7	"(7) ensure enclosed facilities owned, operated,
8	or used by such air carrier, including facilities used
9	for flight or cabin crewmember training or perform-
10	ance of indoor maintenance, repair, or overhaul
11	work, are cleaned, disinfected, and sanitized fre-
12	quently in accordance with Centers for Disease Con-
13	trol and Prevention guidance;
14	"(8) provide air carrier employees whose job re-
15	sponsibilities involve cleaning, disinfecting, and sani-
16	tizing aircraft or enclosed facilities described in
17	paragraphs (6) and (7) with masks or protective
18	face coverings and gloves, and ensure that each con-
19	tractor of the air carrier provides employees of such
20	contractor with such materials; and
21	"(9) establish guidelines, or adhere to existing
22	applicable guidelines, for notifying or contacting em-
23	ployees who may have come into physical contact or
24	interaction with an employee who has been diag-
25	nosed with such airborne disease.

1	"(b) Limited Exceptions.—The requirement for
2	cabin and flight crewmembers to wear a mask or protec-
3	tive face covering under subsections (a)(1) and (a)(2) shall
4	not apply while—
5	"(1) consuming food or beverage;
6	"(2) addressing a legitimate medical need that
7	justifies temporary removal of the mask or face cov-
8	ering;
9	"(3) donning a supplemental oxygen mask in
10	the event of a reduction in the pressure altitude in-
11	side the cabin;
12	"(4) assisting another crewmember or pas-
13	senger in distress; or
14	"(5) performing another legitimate action iden-
15	tified by the air carrier or Administrator in any reg-
16	ulation issued pursuant to this section.
17	"§ 50205. Protection of certain Federal Aviation Ad-
18	ministration employees during public
19	health emergencies
20	"(a) In General.—During the period of any na-
21	tional emergency declared by the President under the Na-
22	tional Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) with re-
23	spect to an airborne disease, in order to maintain the safe
24	and efficient operation of the air traffic control system,
25	the Administrator shall—

1	"(1) provide air traffic controllers, aviation
2	safety inspectors, and airway transportation systems
3	specialists of the Administration with masks or pro-
4	tective face coverings, gloves, and hand sanitizer and
5	wipes with sufficient alcohol content;
6	"(2) ensure air traffic control facilities are
7	cleaned, disinfected, and sanitized frequently in ac-
8	cordance with Centers for Disease Control and Pre-
9	vention guidance; and
10	"(3) provide employees of the Administration
11	whose job responsibilities involve cleaning, dis-
12	infecting, and sanitizing facilities described in para-
13	graph (2) with masks or protective face coverings
14	and gloves, and ensure that each contractor of the
15	Administration provides employees of such con-
16	tractor with such materials.
17	"(b) Source of Equipment.—The items described
18	in subsection (a) may be procured or provided under such
19	subsection through any sources available to the Adminis-
20	trator.
21	" \S 50206. National plan for aviation system prepared-
22	ness
23	"(a) In General.—Not later than 1 year after the
24	date of enactment of this section, the Secretary, in coordi-
25	nation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services,

1	the Secretary of Homeland Security, Director of the Cen-
2	ters of Disease Control and Prevention, and the heads of
3	such other Federal departments or agencies as the Sec-
4	retary considers appropriate, shall develop and regularly
5	update a national aviation preparedness plan to ensure the
6	aviation system is prepared to respond to epidemics and
7	pandemics of infectious diseases.
8	"(b) Contents of Plan.—A plan developed under
9	subsection (a) shall, at a minimum—
10	"(1) fully incorporate elements referenced in
11	the recommendation of the Comptroller General of
12	the United States to the Secretary of Transportation
13	titled 'Air Travel and Communicable Diseases: Com-
14	prehensive Federal Plan Needed for U.S. Aviation
15	System's Preparedness', dated December 2015 (No.
16	GAO 16–127);
17	"(2) clearly delineate the responsibilities of the
18	sponsors or operators of covered airports, air car-
19	riers, and Federal agencies in responding to an in-
20	fectious disease epidemic or pandemic; and
21	"(3) include provisions for improving coordina-
22	tion among air carriers, airport sponsors, United
23	States Customs and Border Protection, the Centers
24	for Disease Control and Prevention, other appro-
25	priate Federal stakeholders, labor organizations rep-

1	resenting groups listed in subsection (c), and other
2	appropriate stakeholders for the rapid and orderly
3	implementation of measures including health screen-
4	ing, quarantining, and contact-tracing with respect
5	to air carrier passengers.
6	"(c) Consultation.—When developing a plan under
7	subsection (a), the Secretary shall consult with aviation
8	industry and labor stakeholders, including representatives
9	of—
10	"(1) air carriers;
11	"(2) small, medium, and large hub airports;
12	"(3) labor organizations that represent flight
13	crewmembers, cabin crewmembers, air carrier air-
14	port customer service representatives, and air carrier
15	maintenance, repair, and overhaul workers;
16	"(4) the labor organization certified under sec-
17	tion 7111 of title 5 as the exclusive bargaining rep-
18	resentative of air traffic controllers of the Federal
19	Aviation Administration;
20	"(5) the labor organization certified under such
21	section as the exclusive bargaining representative of
22	airway transportation systems specialists and avia-
23	tion safety inspectors of the Federal Aviation Ad-
24	ministration; and

1	"(6) other stakeholders as the Secretary con-
2	siders appropriate.
3	"(d) Report.—Not later than 30 days after the plan
4	is developed under subsection (a), the Secretary shall sub-
5	mit to the appropriate committees of Congress such plan.
6	"§ 50207. Definitions
7	"The definitions in section 40102(a) of this title shall
8	apply to terms in this chapter, except that the following
9	terms have the following meanings:
10	"(1) Administrator.—The term 'Adminis-
11	trator' means the Administrator of the Federal Avia-
12	tion Administration.
13	"(2) AIRBORNE DISEASE.—The term 'airborne
14	disease' means an infectious disease that is, or is
15	reasonably believed to be, caused by a pathogen
16	transmissible by aerosols or respiratory droplets ex-
17	pelled from the nose or mouth.
18	"(3) COVERED AIRPORT.—The term 'covered
19	airport' means a public-use airport that receives
20	flights of an air carrier operating under the provi-
21	sions of part 121 of title 14, Code of Federal Regu-
22	lations.
23	"(4) Secretary.—The term 'Secretary' means
24	the Secretary of Transportation.".

1	(b) Clerical Amendment.—The analysis for sub-
2	title VII of title 49, United States Code, is amended by
3	adding at the end the following:
	"502. Public Health Emergencies 50201".
4	(c) Interference With Crewmembers.—Section
5	46504 of title 49, United States Code, is amended—
6	(1) by inserting "(a) In General.—" before
7	"An individual"; and
8	(2) by adding at the end the following:
9	"(b) Failure to Wear Masks During Public
10	Health Emergency.—For purposes of subsection (a),
11	an individual interferes with the performance of the duties
12	of a flight crew member or flight attendant if such indi-
13	vidual, without justification, disobeys a flight crew mem-
14	ber's or flight attendant's instruction to wear a mask or
15	protective face covering during the period of any national
16	emergency declared by the President under the National
17	Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) with respect
18	to an infectious disease that is, or is reasonably believed
19	to be, caused by a pathogen transmissible by respiratory
20	droplets expelled from the nose or mouth.".
21	(d) Conforming Amendment.—Section 46301 of
22	title 49, United States Code, is amended—
23	(1) in subsection (a)(5) by inserting "section
24	50202, section 50203," after "chapter 451,"; and

1	(2) in subsection $(d)(2)$ by inserting ", section
2	50202, section 50203," after "of this title".
3	SEC. 3. REGULATIONS FOR AIR CARRIERS TO REDUCE
4	SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.
5	(a) In General.—In coordination with the Director
6	of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the
7	Secretary shall promulgate regulations requiring each air
8	carrier operating under part 121 of title 14, Code of Fed-
9	eral Regulations, and operating aircraft with a seating ca-
10	pacity of 20 or more to implement appropriate measures
11	on a flight in air transportation for the purpose of reduc-
12	ing the likelihood of any passenger or crewmember con-
13	tracting an infectious disease. Such regulations shall be
14	effective only during the period of a national emergency
15	declared by the President under the National Emergencies
16	Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) relating to a public health
17	emergency.
18	(b) Deadlines.—In conducting the rulemaking re-
19	quired under subsection (a), the Secretary shall issue—
20	(1) a notice of proposed rulemaking not later
21	than 180 days after the date of enactment of this
22	Act; and
23	(2) a final rule not later than 1 year after the
24	date of enactment of this Act.

1	(c) Consultation.—In conducting the rulemaking
2	proceeding required under subsection (a), the Secretary
3	may consult with the heads of such other Federal depart-
4	ments or agencies as the Secretary considers appropriate.
5	SEC. 4. STUDY ON TRANSMISSION OF INFECTIOUS DIS-
6	EASES IN AIRPLANE CABINS.
7	(a) In General.—Not later than 180 days after the
8	date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall seek
9	to enter into an agreement with the National Academies
10	to conduct a study on the transmission of infectious dis-
11	eases, including airborne diseases, in the cabins of pas-
12	senger airplanes.
13	(b) Parameters of Study.—The study required
14	under subsection (a) shall consider, at a minimum—
15	(1) air flow patterns and humidity levels in the
16	cabins of passenger airplanes and the extent to
17	which such patterns and humidity levels increase or
18	decrease the possibility that a passenger may be ex-
19	posed to an airborne pathogen communicated by an-
20	other individual on board an airplane;
21	(2) how uniformly the cabin air supply is com-
22	pletely exchanged and whether air in certain areas
23	of the cabin is exchanged more quickly or slowly
24	than in other areas of the cabin;

1	(3) the extent to which various recirculation
2	systems and the respective filtration systems of such
3	recirculation systems increase or decrease the likeli-
4	hood of exposure to a pathogen;
5	(4) the extent to which the use of
6	preconditioned air during embarkation and disem-
7	barkation changes the likelihood of a passenger's ex-
8	posure to a pathogen as opposed to the use of air
9	conditioning packs fed by the auxiliary power unit;
10	and
11	(5) other variables that determine the likelihood
12	of an individual's exposure to a pathogen on a pas-
13	senger airplane, including the use or location of per-
14	sonal air outlets, seating location, load factor, move-
15	ment of cabin crewmembers and passengers through-
16	out the cabin during the flight, embarkation, and
17	disembarkation, testing and replacement frequency
18	of air filters, commonly touched surfaces, use or lo-
19	cation of lavatories, and such other variables as the
20	National Academies consider relevant.
21	(c) Report to Congress.—Not later than 1 year
22	after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator
23	shall—

1	(1) submit to the congressional committees of
2	jurisdiction a report on the results of the study re-
3	quired under this section; and
4	(2) publish such report on the website of the
5	Federal Aviation Administration.
6	SEC. 5. AIR CARRIER PRACTICES AND AIRPLANE DESIGN
7	IMPROVEMENTS.
8	(a) In General.—Based on the results of the study
9	required under section 4 and such other information as
10	the Administrator considers relevant, the Administrator
11	shall identify and evaluate prospective air carrier practices
12	or procedures, and prospective features in the design or
13	configuration of cabin surfaces and air conditioning and
14	pressurization systems in passenger airplanes, that would
15	reduce the extent of transmission of pathogens within the
16	cabin.
17	(b) Report.—
18	(1) Follow-up report.—Not later than 270
19	days after the submission of the report under section
20	4(c), the Administrator shall publish a report that
21	lists each practice, procedure, and feature that the
22	Administrator considered under subsection (a), along
23	with an assessment of the extent to which such prac-
24	tice, procedure, or feature would reduce the trans-

1	mission of pathogens, irrespective of the cost of such
2	implementing such practice, procedure, or feature.
3	(2) Publication of Report.—The Adminis-
4	trator shall—
5	(A) transmit the report required under this
6	subsection to the congressional committees of
7	jurisdiction; and
8	(B) publish such report on the website of
9	the Federal Aviation Administration.
10	(c) Rulemaking.—
11	(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after
12	the issuance of the report required under subsection
13	(b), the Administrator shall initiate one or more
14	rulemaking proceedings to—
15	(A) amend part 25 of title 14, Code of
16	Federal Regulations, to require that applica-
17	tions for new type certificates (including
18	amended type certificates) for new passenger
19	airplanes must include such features described
20	in subsection (a) as the Administrator deter-
21	mines appropriate; and
22	(B) require air carriers to implement such
23	air carrier practices and procedures described
24	in subsection (a) as the Administrator deter-
25	mines appropriate.

1	(2) Exception.—Notwithstanding paragraph
2	(1), the Administrator may decline to initiate a rule-
3	making proceeding under paragraph (1) if the Ad-
4	ministrator—
5	(A) determines that the practices, proce-
6	dures, or features described under paragraph
7	(1) would not reduce the transmission of patho-
8	gens on board passenger airplanes by a reason-
9	able degree; and
10	(B) not later than 60 days after the sub-
11	mission of the report required under subsection
12	(b), submits to the congressional committees of
13	jurisdiction a thorough justification describing
14	in detail the Administrator's rationale for de-
15	clining to initiate a rulemaking proceeding.
16	SEC. 6. CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FOR INFECTIOUS DIS-
17	EASE RESPONSE AND PREVENTION IN AVIA-
18	TION.
19	(a) In General.—Not later than 180 days after the
20	date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall es-
21	tablish a Center of Excellence for Infectious Disease Re-
22	sponse and Prevention in Aviation (in this section referred
23	to as the "Center of Excellence").
24	(b) Functions.—The Center of Excellence estab-
25	lished under this section shall—

1	(1) study, and provide educational, technical,
2	and analytical assistance to the Administrator on,
3	the transmissibility of infectious diseases, including
4	airborne diseases, during air travel and such dis-
5	eases' effects on the United States aviation system
6	and air commerce;
7	(2) report to the Administrator on architecture,
8	design, layout, technologies, industry practices, pro-
9	cedures, or policies, and other advancements that
10	can be used by airports, air carriers, aircraft manu-
11	facturers, and other aviation stakeholders, as the
12	case may be, to reduce the spread of infectious dis-
13	eases during air travel; and
14	(3) make recommendations to the Adminis-
15	trator on regulations, policies, and guidance the Ad-
16	ministrator should develop or issue to meet the goals
17	of this section.
18	(c) Industry and Labor Participation.—The
19	Center of Excellence may request or receive data, statis-
20	tics, or other information from aviation industry and labor
21	stakeholders to help inform and carry out the functions
22	described in this section. If any such materials requested
23	or received inform recommendations of the Center of Ex-
24	cellence under subsection (b)(3), the Center of Excellence

shall clearly disclose the source of such materials in any such recommendations. 3 SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS. 4 For purposes of this Act, the definitions in section 40102(a) of title 49, United States Code, shall apply to terms in this Act, except that the following terms have the following meanings: 8 ADMINISTRATOR.—The term "Adminis-9 trator" means the Administrator of the Federal 10 Aviation Administration. 11 (2) AIRBORNE DISEASE.—The term "airborne 12 disease" means an infectious disease that is, or is 13 reasonably believed to be, caused by a pathogen 14 transmissible by aerosols or respiratory droplets ex-15 pelled from the nose or mouth. 16 (3) Congressional committees of jurisdic-17 TION.—The term "congressional committees of juris-18 diction" means the Committee on Transportation 19 and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives 20 and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and 21 Transportation of the Senate. 22 (4) Passenger Airplane.—The term "pas-23 senger airplane" means a turbine-powered, trans-24 port-category airplane certificated under the provi-

sions of subchapter C of title 14, Code of Federal

25

- Regulations, with a passenger seating capacity of 20 or more.
- 3 (5) Secretary.—The term "Secretary" means
- 4 the Secretary of Transportation.