

119TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2591

To require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to revise regulations for certain individuals carrying out aviation activities who disclose a mental health diagnosis or condition, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 2, 2025

Mr. CASTEN (for himself, Mr. STAUBER, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, and Mr. MANN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to revise regulations for certain individuals carrying out aviation activities who disclose a mental health diagnosis or condition, 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 “Mental Health in Avia-  
5 tion Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. REGULATIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS CARRYING OUT**  
2 **AVIATION ACTIVITIES.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the  
4 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the  
5 Federal Aviation Administration shall update regulations,  
6 including in part 67 of title 14 of Code of Federal Regula-  
7 tions, as appropriate, and take any other actions necessary  
8 to implement the recommendations of the aviation work-  
9 force mental health task group established under section  
10 411(d) the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 to encourage  
11 individuals to—

12 (1) seek help for mental health conditions or  
13 symptoms of mental health conditions; and

14 (2) to disclose conditions or symptoms de-  
15 scribed in paragraph (1).

16 (b) CONSULTATION.—In carrying out this section,  
17 the task group described in subsection (a) shall consult  
18 with relevant stakeholders from the aviation and medical  
19 communities, as necessary, including—

20 (1) the certified exclusive bargaining represent-  
21 atives of air traffic controllers of the Administration  
22 certified under section 7111 of title 5, United States  
23 Code;

24 (2) the principal organization representing the  
25 largest certified collective bargaining representative  
26 of airline pilots;

1           (3) aviation medical examiners, as described in  
2           section 183.21 of title 14, Code of Federal Regula-  
3           tions; and

4           (4) any other stakeholder determined relevant  
5           by the task group, including any stakeholders de-  
6           scribed in section 411(d)(3)(B) of the FAA Reau-  
7           thorization Act of 2024.

8           (c) REPORT REQUIREMENTS.—Section 411(d)(4) of  
9           the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 (Public Law 118–  
10          63) is amended—

11           (1) in subparagraph (B) by striking “and” at  
12           the end;

13           (2) in subparagraph (C) by striking the period  
14           at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

15           (3) by adding at the end the following:

16                   “(D) a review and evaluation of any rec-  
17                   ommendations reached by the National Trans-  
18                   portation Safety Board related to aviation  
19                   workforce mental health; and

20                   “(E) a description of relevant clinical stud-  
21                   ies, research, diagnostic manuals, and protocols  
22                   used by the licensed professionals as of the date  
23                   of enactment of this Act.”.

1 **SEC. 3. ANNUAL REVIEW OF MENTAL HEALTH SPECIAL**  
2 **ISSUANCE PROCESS.**

3 The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Adminis-  
4 tration shall conduct an annual review, and update, as ap-  
5 propriate, the applicable regulations and policies, on men-  
6 tal health-related special issuance for pilots and air traffic  
7 controllers to—

8 (1) reclassify and approve additional medica-  
9 tions that may be safely prescribed to airmen to  
10 treat mental health conditions;

11 (2) improve mental health knowledge and train-  
12 ing for aviation medical examiners;

13 (3) if the Administrator determines appropriate,  
14 delegate additional authority to aviation medical ex-  
15 aminers consistent with the recommendation of the  
16 Mental Health Aviation Rulemaking Committee de-  
17 scribed in section 5; and

18 (4) improve the special issuance process for pi-  
19 lots and air traffic controllers.

20 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION FOR ADDI-**  
21 **TIONAL AVIATION MEDICAL EXAMINERS.**

22 There is authorized to be appropriated \$13,740,000  
23 to the Administrator for each of fiscal years 2026 through  
24 2029 to—

25 (1) recruit, select, train, and delegate the nec-  
26 essary authorities to additional aviation medical ex-

1       aminers and human intervention motivation study  
2       aviation medical examiners, including those who are  
3       psychiatrists;

4           (2) expand capacity to provide oversight of  
5       aviation medical examiners and clear the backlog of  
6       special issuance requests and cases awaiting review  
7       at the Office of Aerospace Medicine; and

8           (3) support any other related activities, as de-  
9       termined by the Administrator.

10 **SEC. 5. IMPLEMENTATION OF AVIATION RULEMAKING**  
11                                   **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS.**

12       (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the  
13       date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the  
14       Federal Aviation Administration shall implement the rec-  
15       ommendations of the Mental Health and Aviation Medical  
16       Clearances Aviation Rulemaking Committee which were  
17       submitted to the Administrator on April 1, 2024.

18       (b) CONSULTATION.—Subject to section 2, the Ad-  
19       ministrator shall consult with parties in the implementa-  
20       tion described in subsection (a).

21 **SEC. 6. PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGN.**

22       (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-  
23       priated to the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Ad-  
24       ministration \$1,500,000 for each of fiscal years 2026  
25       through 2029 for a public information campaign or similar

1 public education efforts to destigmatize individuals in (or  
2 interested in joining) the aviation industry who seek men-  
3 tal health care, to broaden awareness of available sup-  
4 portive services, and establish trust with pilots and air  
5 traffic controllers.

6 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the Admin-  
7 istrator creates the public information campaign described  
8 in subsection (a), the Administrator shall submit to appro-  
9 priate committees of Congress a report describing the ac-  
10 tions taken to develop such campaign and the plans for  
11 implementation.

12 **SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

13 In this Act:

14 (1) APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF CON-  
15 GRESS.—The term “appropriate committees of Con-  
16 gress” means—

17 (A) the Committee on Transportation and  
18 Infrastructure of the House of Representatives;  
19 and

20 (B) the Committee on Commerce, Science,  
21 and Transportation of the Senate.

22 (2) SPECIAL ISSUANCE.—The term “special  
23 issuance” has the meaning given the term in section  
24 67.401 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations.

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