

119TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7452

To prohibit weather modification within the United States, and for other purposes.

---

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 9, 2026

Mr. STEUBE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure, and Science, Space, and Technology, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

---

## A BILL

To prohibit weather modification within the United States,  
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 “Air Quality Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITION OF WEATHER MODIFICATION.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Whoever, in any circumstance de-  
7 scribed in subsection (b), knowingly authorizes or con-

1 ducts weather modification in the United States shall be  
2 subject to the penalties described in subsection (c).

3 (b) CIRCUMSTANCES DESCRIBED.—For the purposes  
4 of subsection (a), the circumstances described in this sub-  
5 section are that—

6 (1) the defendant traveled in interstate or for-  
7 eign commerce, or traveled using a means, channel,  
8 facility, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign  
9 commerce, in furtherance of or in connection with  
10 the conduct described in subsection (a);

11 (2) the defendant used a means, channel, facil-  
12 ity, or instrumentality of interstate or foreign com-  
13 merce in furtherance of or in connection with the  
14 conduct described in subsection (a);

15 (3) the defendant transmitted in interstate or  
16 foreign commerce any communication relating to or  
17 in furtherance of the conduct described in subsection  
18 (a) using any means, channel, facility, or instrumen-  
19 tality of interstate or foreign commerce or in or af-  
20 fecting interstate or foreign commerce by any means  
21 or in any manner, including by computer, mail, wire,  
22 or electromagnetic transmission;

23 (4) the conduct described in subsection (a) oc-  
24 curred within the special maritime and territorial ju-  
25 risdiction of the United States, the special aircraft

1 jurisdiction of the United States, or any territory or  
2 possession of the United States; or

3 (5) the conduct described in subsection (a) oth-  
4 erwise occurred in or affected interstate or foreign  
5 commerce.

6 (c) PENALTIES.—

7 (1) CRIMINAL PENALTY.—Whoever violates  
8 subsection (a) shall be fined not more than  
9 \$100,000 for each violation, imprisoned not more  
10 than 5 years, or both.

11 (2) CIVIL PENALTY.—The Administrator of the  
12 Environmental Protection Agency may, in coordina-  
13 tion with the Administrator of the Federal Aviation  
14 Administration, impose a civil penalty of not more  
15 than \$10,000 for each violation of subsection (a), in  
16 addition to any other penalties provided by law.

17 (3) REPEAT VIOLATIONS.—Each instance of in-  
18 jection, release, emission, or dispersal under sub-  
19 section (a) shall constitute a separate violation of  
20 such section.

21 (4) LIABILITY OF OFFICERS AND AGENTS.—In  
22 the case of a violation of subsection (a) by a public  
23 or private entity, the entity and any officer, director,  
24 or employee of the entity who knowingly authorizes

1 a violation of, or violates, subsection (a) shall be  
2 subject to the penalties under this section.

3 **SEC. 3. REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION.**

4 (a) AIRCRAFT REPORTING.—

5 (1) ESTABLISHMENT OF SYSTEM.—The Admin-  
6 istrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall  
7 establish a system for air carriers to report the loca-  
8 tion and movement of any aircraft equipped with  
9 any component, device, or the like which may be  
10 used to support weather modification.

11 (2) SUBMISSION OF REPORTS.—Such system  
12 may collect reports via telephone, email, mail, or an  
13 online portal.

14 (3) PUBLICATION OF REPORTS.—The Adminis-  
15 trator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall  
16 make publicly available on the website of the Federal  
17 Aviation Administration any reports collected by  
18 such system under this subsection.

19 (b) PUBLIC REPORTING.—

20 (1) ESTABLISHMENT OF SYSTEM.—The Admin-  
21 istrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, in  
22 consultation with the Administrator of the Federal  
23 Aviation Administration and the Administrator of  
24 the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administra-

1       tion, shall establish a system for the public to report  
2       suspected violations of section 2.

3           (2) SUBMISSION OF REPORTS.—Such system  
4       may collect reports via telephone, email, mail, or an  
5       online portal.

6           (3) PUBLICATION OF REPORTS.—The Adminis-  
7       trator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall  
8       make publicly available on the website of the Envi-  
9       ronmental Protection Agency any reports collected  
10      by such system under this subsection.

11      (c) INVESTIGATION.—

12           (1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the  
13      Environmental Protection Agency shall investigate  
14      suspected violations of section 2 reported pursuant  
15      to subsection (b) that the Administrator determines  
16      warrant further review.

17           (2) DETERMINATION.—

18           (A) REQUIREMENT.—For any suspected  
19      violation investigated under paragraph (1), the  
20      Administrator shall determine whether a viola-  
21      tion of section 2 has occurred.

22           (B) COORDINATION.—In determining  
23      whether a violation of section 2 occurred, the  
24      Administrator of the Environmental Protection  
25      Agency may coordinate with the Secretary of

1           Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, the  
2           Administrator of the Federal Aviation Adminis-  
3           tration, the Administrator of the National Aero-  
4           nautics and Space Administration, the Adminis-  
5           trator of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
6           Administration, or the head of any other Fed-  
7           eral agency that the Administrator of the Envi-  
8           ronmental Protection Agency determines to be  
9           relevant, to verify the nature of any activities  
10          described in a report submitted pursuant to  
11          subsection (b).

12          (d) REFERRAL TO DOJ.—The Administrator of the  
13          Environmental Protection Agency shall refer a suspected  
14          violation that the Administrator determines to have oc-  
15          curred under subsection (c)(2) to the Attorney General of  
16          the United States for further action.

17   **SEC. 4. REPEAL OF EXISTING AUTHORITIES.**

18          (a) FEDERAL STATUTES.—Any provision of a Fed-  
19          eral statute authorizing or requiring weather modification,  
20          including a licensing requirement or permit for any such  
21          weather modification, is hereby repealed.

22          (b) FEDERAL REGULATIONS OR EXECUTIVE OR-  
23          DERS.—Any provision of a Federal regulation or Execu-  
24          tive order authorizing or requiring weather modification,  
25          including a licensing requirement or permit for any such

1 weather modification, is hereby nullified and shall have no  
2 force or effect.

3 **SEC. 5. PROHIBITION ON RESEARCH AND EXPERIMEN-**  
4 **TATION.**

5 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no Fed-  
6 eral department or agency, or any recipient of Federal  
7 funds, may authorize or conduct any research, testing, or  
8 experimentation that constitutes weather modification in  
9 the United States, including the territories and posses-  
10 sions of the United States.

11 **SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.**

12 In this Act:

13 (1) AIR CARRIER.—The term “air carrier” has  
14 the meaning given such term in section 40102 of  
15 title 49, United States Code.

16 (2) AIR POLLUTANT.—The term “air pollutant”  
17 has the meaning given such term in section 302(g)  
18 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7602(g)).

19 (3) APPARATUS.—The term “apparatus” means  
20 a device, instrument, or system.

21 (4) ATMOSPHERE.—The term “atmosphere”  
22 means the gaseous envelope surrounding the Earth,  
23 including all airspace within the territorial jurisdic-  
24 tion of the United States.

1           (5) BIOLOGICAL AGENT.—The term “biological  
2       agent” has the meaning given such term in section  
3       178 of title 18, United States Code.

4           (6) CHEMICAL SUBSTANCE.—The term “chem-  
5       ical substance” has the meaning given such term in  
6       section 3 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (15  
7       U.S.C. 2602).

8           (7) CLOUD SEEDING.—The term “cloud seed-  
9       ing” means the act of altering the processes of a  
10      cloud or storm by releasing a substance into the air.

11          (8)       GEOENGINEERING.—The       term  
12      “geoengineering” means a technological intervention  
13      aimed at mitigating the effects of lowering the tem-  
14      perature of, or removing certain gases from, the at-  
15      mosphere.

16          (9) MARINE CLOUD BRIGHTENING.—The term  
17      “marine cloud brightening” means a strategy for  
18      adding aerosol to the lower atmosphere over ocean  
19      regions to increase the reflectivity of clouds.

20          (10) STRATOSPHERIC AEROSOL INJECTION.—  
21      The term “stratospheric aerosol injection” means a  
22      strategy for increasing the number of small reflective  
23      aerosols in the stratosphere to increase the reflection  
24      of incoming sunlight.

25          (11) WEATHER MODIFICATION.—

1 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “weather  
2 modification” means any injection, release,  
3 emission, or dispersal of a chemical substance,  
4 a biological agent, or an air pollutant, or con-  
5 veyance of an apparatus, into the atmosphere  
6 that—

7 (i) produces a change in the composi-  
8 tion or behavior of the atmosphere; or

9 (ii) affects the temperature, weather,  
10 climate, or intensity of sunlight.

11 (B) EXAMPLES.—Such term includes—

12 (i) geoengineering;

13 (ii) cloud seeding;

14 (iii) solar radiation modification and  
15 management;

16 (iv) stratospheric aerosol injection;

17 and

18 (v) marine cloud brightening.

19 **SEC. 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

20 This Act shall take effect 90 days after the date of  
21 enactment of this Act.

○