

103D CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 469

To amend the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 to improve air service to small communities.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 6, 1993

Mr. OBERSTAR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Public Works and Transportation

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## A BILL

To amend the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 to improve air service to small communities.

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. PROTECTION OF SMALL COMMUNITY AIRLINE**

4 **PASSENGERS.**

5 (a) ACCESS TO HIGH DENSITY AIRPORTS.—Section  
6 419(b) of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 (49 U.S.C.  
7 App. 1389(b)) is amended by adding at the end the follow-  
8 ing new paragraph:

9 “(10) ACCESS TO HIGH DENSITY AIRPORTS.—

1           “(A) NONCONSIDERATION OF SLOT AVAIL-  
2 ABILITY.—In determining what is basic essen-  
3 tial air service and in selecting an air carrier to  
4 provide such service, the Secretary shall not  
5 give consideration to whether slots at a high  
6 density airport are available for providing such  
7 service.

8           “(B) MAKING SLOTS AVAILABLE.—If basic  
9 essential air service is to be provided to and  
10 from a high density airport, the Secretary shall  
11 ensure that a sufficient number of slots at such  
12 airport are available to the air carrier providing  
13 or selected to provide such service. If necessary  
14 to carry out the objectives of this subsection,  
15 the Secretary shall take such action as may be  
16 necessary to have such slots transferred or oth-  
17 erwise made available to the air carrier; except  
18 that the Secretary shall not be required to  
19 make slots available at O’Hare International  
20 Airport in Chicago, Illinois, if the number of  
21 slots available for basic essential air service to  
22 and from such airport is at least 132 slots.”.

23           (b) TRANSFERS OF SLOTS AT HIGH DENSITY AIR-  
24 PORTS.—Section 419(b)(7) of such Act (49 U.S.C. App.  
25 1389(b)(7)) is amended—

1           (1) by striking “TRANSFER OF OPERATIONAL  
2           AUTHORITY AT CERTAIN” and inserting “TRANS-  
3           FERS OF SLOTS AT”;

4           (2) by striking “an airport at which the Admin-  
5           istrator limits the number of instrument flight rule  
6           takeoffs and landings of aircraft” and inserting “a  
7           high density airport”;

8           (3) by striking “operational authority” and in-  
9           serting “slots”;

10          (4) by striking “has to conduct a landing or  
11          takeoff” and inserting “have”; and

12          (5) by striking “such authority” the first place  
13          it appears and inserting “such slots”;

14          (6) by striking “such authority is” and insert-  
15          ing “such slots are”; and

16          (7) by inserting “basic essential” after “used to  
17          provide”.

18          (c) DEFINITIONS.—Section 419(k) of such Act (49  
19          U.S.C. App. 1389(k)) is amended by adding at the end  
20          the following new paragraphs:

21                 “(6) HIGH DENSITY AIRPORT.—The term ‘high  
22                 density airport’ means an airport at which the Ad-  
23                 ministrator limits the number of instrument flight  
24                 rule takeoffs and landings of aircraft.

1           “(7) SLOT.—The term ‘slot’ means a reserva-  
2           tion for an instrument flight rule takeoff or landing  
3           by an air carrier of an aircraft in air transpor-  
4           tation.”.

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