

107TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 757

To amend title 49, United States Code, to temporarily limit the number of airline flights at LaGuardia Airport, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2001

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York (for herself, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. KING, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. NADLER, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. GRUCCI, and Mr. WEINER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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## A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to temporarily limit the number of airline flights at LaGuardia Airport, 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 “Airport Congestion Re-

5       lief Act of 2001”.

6       **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       Congress finds that—

1           (1) a sudden increase in flights at LaGuardia  
2 Airport presents concerns for aviation consumers  
3 and the community surrounding LaGuardia Airport;

4           (2) there were more than 10,000 flight delays  
5 at LaGuardia Airport in September 2000, an in-  
6 crease from 3,108 in September 1999;

7           (3) in September 2000, 24 percent of flight  
8 delays in the United States were at LaGuardia Air-  
9 port, an increase from 12 percent in September  
10 1999;

11           (4) in September 2000, average delays for  
12 many afternoon flights at LaGuardia Airport exceed-  
13 ed 46 minutes;

14           (5) in response to the increased air traffic at  
15 LaGuardia Airport, the Port Authority of New York  
16 and New Jersey, which operates LaGuardia Airport,  
17 announced a moratorium on additional flights at  
18 LaGuardia Airport, citing its authority under section  
19 41713(b)(3) of title 49, United States Code;

20           (6) the Federal Aviation Administration admin-  
21 istered a plan to recind slots at LaGuardia Airport  
22 made available under the Wendell H. Ford Airport  
23 Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century  
24 (114 Stat. 61 et seq.) for additional flight operations  
25 to small and nonhub airports using regional jet air-

1 craft and to temporarily redistribute the slots by a  
2 lottery held on December 4, 2000, citing the Federal  
3 Aviation Administration’s authority under section  
4 41715(b) of title 49, United States Code;

5 (7) under the Federal Aviation Administration’s  
6 plan, beginning on January 31, 2000, slots for not  
7 more than 75 scheduled commercial air carrier  
8 flights per hour are allowed at LaGuardia Airport;  
9 and

10 (8) the Federal Aviation Administration’s plan  
11 is scheduled to terminate on September 15, 2001.

12 **SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF FLIGHT LIMITATIONS AT**  
13 **LAGUARDIA AIRPORT.**

14 Section 41716 of title 49, United States Code, is  
15 amended by adding at the end the following:

16 “(e) FLIGHT LIMITATIONS AT LAGUARDIA AIR-  
17 PORT.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other  
19 provision of this section, in the period beginning on  
20 the date of enactment of this subsection and ending  
21 on September 15, 2001, the number of slots (includ-  
22 ing slot exemptions) for scheduled commercial air  
23 carrier flights at Laguardia Airport shall be limited  
24 to 75 per hour and the number of slots for general

1 aviation flights at LaGuardia Airport shall be limited  
2 to 6 per hour.

3 “(2) PUBLICATION OF COMPREHENSIVE  
4 PLAN.—If the Secretary, acting through the Admin-  
5 istrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, has  
6 not published, on or before September 15, 2001, a  
7 comprehensive plan for slots at LaGuardia Airport,  
8 the period in which paragraph (1) applies shall be  
9 extended until September 30, 2002. The Secretary  
10 shall develop any such plan in consultation with the  
11 Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and  
12 other appropriate public and private entities.”.

13 **SEC. 4. REMEDIES FOR INCREASED FLIGHTS AT**  
14 **LAGUARDIA AIRPORT.**

15 (a) STUDY.—The Secretary of Transportation, in  
16 consultation with the Port Authority of New York and  
17 New Jersey, shall continue to conduct a comprehensive  
18 study on remedies needed to alleviate the concerns of avia-  
19 tion consumers and the community surrounding  
20 LaGuardia Airport associated with increasing the number  
21 of flights at LaGuardia Airport.

22 (b) REPORT.—Not later than September 1, 2002, the  
23 Secretary shall transmit to Congress a report on the re-  
24 sults of the study conducted under subsection (a).

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