

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To create opportunities for women in the aviation industry.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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Ms. COLLINS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To create opportunities for women in the aviation industry.

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 “Promoting Women in  
5 the Aviation Workforce Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Women make up over 50 percent of the na-  
9 tional workforce, but are significantly underrep-  
10 resented in the aviation industry. Women represent  
11 only 2 percent of airline mechanics, 4 percent of  
12 flight engineers, 5 percent of repairmen, 26 percent

1 of air traffic controllers, 18 percent of flight dis-  
2 patchers, and 6 percent of pilots.

3 (2) 12 percent of students enrolled in AABI-ac-  
4 credited programs are women.

5 (3) Women have made tremendous contribu-  
6 tions to aviation while under steep adversity. Coura-  
7 geous women like Blanche Scott, Amelia Earhart,  
8 Bessie Coleman, Ada Brown, and so many others  
9 paved the way for women in aviation and engineer-  
10 ing. Their leadership shall be valued and remem-  
11 bered as we continue to grow the influence of women  
12 in aviation.

13 (4) Programs like the annual “Girls in Aviation  
14 Day” established by Women in Aviation Inter-  
15 national in September 2015 help young women be  
16 introduced to the different opportunities that are  
17 open to women in the aviation and aerospace indus-  
18 try. Support for these efforts will go a long way in  
19 supporting women’s aspirations in these fields.

20 **SEC. 3. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING WOMEN IN AVIA-**  
21 **TION.**

22 It is the sense of Congress that the aviation industry  
23 should explore all opportunities, including pilot training,  
24 science, technology, engineering, and mathematics edu-  
25 cation, and mentorship programs, to encourage and sup-

1 port female students and aviators to pursue a career in  
2 aviation.

3 **SEC. 4. SUPPORTING WOMEN'S INVOLVEMENT IN THE AVIA-**  
4 **TION FIELD.**

5 (a) **ADVISORY BOARD.**—To encourage women and  
6 girls to enter the field of aviation, the Administrator of  
7 the Federal Aviation Administration shall create and fa-  
8 cilitate the Women in Aviation Advisory Board (referred  
9 to in this section as the “Board”), with the objective of  
10 promoting organizations and programs that are providing  
11 education, training, mentorship, outreach, and recruit-  
12 ment of women into the aviation industry.

13 (b) **COMPOSITION.**—The Board shall consist of mem-  
14 bers whose diverse background allows them to contribute  
15 balanced points of view and ideas regarding the strategies  
16 and objectives set forth in section 4(f).

17 (c) **SELECTION.**—Not later than 9 months after the  
18 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall ap-  
19 point members of the Board, including representatives  
20 from the following:

- 21 (1) Major airlines and aerospace companies.
- 22 (2) Nonprofit organizations within the aviation  
23 industry.
- 24 (3) Aviation business associations.
- 25 (4) engineering business associations.

1           (5) United States Air Force Auxiliary, Civil Air  
2           Patrol.

3           (d) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENT.—Members shall be  
4 appointed to the Board for the duration of the existence  
5 of the Board.

6           (e) COMPENSATION.—Board members shall serve  
7 without compensation.

8           (f) DUTIES.—Not later than 18 months after the  
9 date of enactment of this Act, the Board shall present a  
10 comprehensive plan for strategies the Administration can  
11 take, which include the following objectives:

12           (1) Identifying industry trends that directly or  
13 indirectly discourage women from pursuing careers  
14 in aviation, including—

15           (A) possible differences between women  
16 minority groups; and

17           (B) possible differences between women  
18 who live in rural, suburban, and urban areas.

19           (2) Coordinating the functions of airline compa-  
20 nies, nonprofit organizations, and aviation and engi-  
21 neering associations to facilitate support for women  
22 pursuing careers in aviation.

23           (3) Creating opportunities to expand existing  
24 scholarship opportunities for women in the aviation  
25 industry.

1           (4) Enhancing aviation training, mentorship,  
2           education, and outreach programs that are exclusive  
3           to women.

4           (g) REPORTS.—

5           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after  
6           the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator  
7           shall submit a report to—

8                   (A) the Committee on Transportation and  
9                   Infrastructure of the House of Representatives  
10                  and

11                   (B) the Committee on Commerce, Science,  
12                  and Transportation of the Senate.

13           (2) AVAILABILITY ONLINE.—The Administrator  
14           shall make the report publicly available online and in  
15           print.