

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3752

To prohibit requiring a pilot of an unmanned aircraft to hold a medical certificate as a condition for piloting such aircraft, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 7, 2024

Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. WARNER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To prohibit requiring a pilot of an unmanned aircraft to hold a medical certificate as a condition for piloting such aircraft, 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 “Fair Qualifications for
5 Pilots Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Unmanned aircraft pilots do not use their
9 feet for things like rudder pedals to control their air-

1 craft and therefore, amputees might be qualified to
2 serve as remote pilot in command without special ac-
3 commodation.

4 (2) While flying, crewed aircraft pilots do not
5 have ready access to quality medical care, whereas
6 unmanned aircraft pilots and crew can directly and
7 easily access both primary and emergency medical
8 care.

9 (3) The growing degree of automation in un-
10 manned aircraft systems allows for differently abled
11 persons to fully and completely exercise the full
12 range of system capabilities at the same level as
13 anyone else.

14 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON REQUIRING A PILOT OF AN UN-**
15 **MANNED AIRCRAFT TO HOLD A MEDICAL**
16 **CERTIFICATE.**

17 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, neither
18 the Secretary of Transportation nor the Administrator of
19 the Federal Aviation Administration shall require (by reg-
20 ulation or other action) that a pilot of an unmanned air-
21 craft (as defined in section 44801 of title 49, United
22 States Code) hold a first-class, second-class, or third-class
23 medical certificate issued under part 67 of title 14, Code
24 of Federal Regulations, as a condition for piloting such
25 aircraft.

1 **SEC. 4. MEDICAL QUALIFICATIONS.**

2 In promulgating any rule establishing a regulatory
3 pathway for certification or approval of unmanned aircraft
4 systems (as defined in such section 44801) to enable com-
5 mercial beyond visual line of sight operations and to the
6 extent it is necessary to issue any new requirements per-
7 taining to the medical qualifications of unmanned aircraft
8 operators, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Ad-
9 ministration shall consider the recommendations of the
10 Beyond Visual Line of Sight Aviation Rulemaking Com-
11 mittee relating to the development of tailored medical
12 qualifications for unmanned aircraft pilots and other crew
13 members.

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