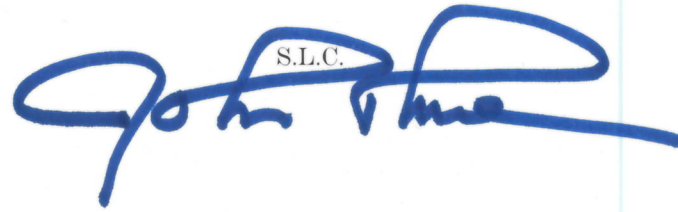


Thave-1 (modified)

S.L.C.


AMENDMENT NO. _____ Calendar No. _____

Purpose: To provide for an enhanced qualification program for restricted airline transport pilot certificates.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—118th Cong., 1st Sess.

S. 1939

To amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2024 through 2028, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on _____ and ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT intended to be proposed by Mr. THUNE (for himself and Ms. SINEMA)

Viz:

1 At the appropriate place, insert the following:
2 **SEC. ____ . ENHANCED QUALIFICATION PROGRAM FOR**
3 **RESTRICTED AIRLINE TRANSPORT PILOT**
4 **CERTIFICATE.**

5 (a) PROGRAM.—

6 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months
7 after the date of enactment of this section, the Ad-
8 ministrator shall establish the requirements for a
9 program to be known as the Enhanced Qualification
10 Program (in this section referred to as the “Pro-
11 gram”) under which—

1 (A) qualified air carriers are certified by
2 the Administrator to provide enhanced training
3 for eligible pilots seeking to obtain restricted
4 airline transport certificates, either directly by
5 the air carrier or by a certified training institu-
6 tion under part 141 or part 142 of title 14,
7 Code of Federal Regulations, that is under con-
8 tract with the qualified air carrier; and

9 (B) qualified instructors and evaluators
10 provide enhanced training to eligible pilots pur-
11 suant to the curriculum requirements under
12 paragraph (4).

13 (2) QUALIFIED INSTRUCTORS AND EVAL-
14 UATORS.—Under the Program—

15 (A) all testing and training shall be per-
16 formed by qualified instructors; and

17 (B) all evaluations shall be performed by
18 qualified evaluators.

19 (3) PILOT ASSESSMENT.—Under the Program,
20 the Administrator shall establish guidelines for an
21 assessment that prospective pilots are required to
22 pass in order to participate in the training under the
23 Program. Such assessment shall include an evalua-
24 tion of the pilot's aptitude, ability, and readiness for
25 operation of transport category aircraft.

1 (4) PROGRAM CURRICULUM.—Under the Pro-
2 gram, the Administrator shall establish requirements
3 for the curriculum to be provided under the Pro-
4 gram. Such curriculum shall include—

5 (Λ) a nationally standardized, non-air car-
6 rier or aircraft-specific training curriculum
7 which shall—

8 (i) ensure prospective pilots have ap-
9 propriate knowledge at the commercial
10 pilot certificate, multi-engine rating, and
11 instrument rating level;

12 (ii) introduce the pilots to concepts
13 associated with air carrier operations;

14 (iii) meet all requirements for an ATP
15 Certification Training Program under part
16 61.156 or part 142 of title 14, Code of
17 Federal Regulations; and

18 (iv) include a course of instruction de-
19 signed to prepare the prospective pilot to
20 take the ATP Multiengine Airplane Knowl-
21 edge Test;

22 (B) an aircraft-specific training cur-
23 riculum, developed by the air carrier using ob-
24 jectives and learning standards developed by the
25 Administrator, which shall—

1 (i) only be administered to prospective
2 pilots who have completed the require-
3 ments under subparagraph (A);

4 (ii) resemble a type rating training
5 curriculum that includes aircraft ground
6 and flight training that culminates in—

7 (I) the completion of a maneu-
8 vers evaluation that incorporates ele-
9 ments of a type rating practical test;
10 or

11 (II) at the discretion of the air
12 carrier, an actual type rating practical
13 test resulting in the issuance of a type
14 rating for the specific aircraft; and

15 (iii) ensure the prospective pilot has
16 an adequate understanding and working
17 knowledge of transport category aircraft
18 automation and autoflight systems; and

19 (C) air carrier-specific procedures using
20 objectives and learning standards developed by
21 the Administrator to further expand on the con-
22 cepts described in subparagraphs (A) and (B),
23 which shall—

24 (i) only be administered to prospective
25 pilots who have completed requirements

1 under subparagraphs (A) and (B) and an
2 ATP Multiengine Airplane Knowledge
3 Test;

4 (ii) include instructions on air carrier
5 checklist usage and standard operating
6 procedures; and

7 (iii) integrate aircraft-specific training
8 in appropriate flight simulation training
9 devices representing the specific aircraft
10 type, including complete crew resource
11 management and scenario-based training.

12 (5) APPLICATION AND CERTIFICATION.—Under
13 the Program, the Administrator shall establish a
14 process for air carriers to apply for training program
15 certification. Such process shall include a review to
16 ensure that the training provided by the air carrier
17 will meet the requirements of this section, includ-
18 ing—

19 (A) the assessment requirements under
20 paragraph (3);

21 (B) the curriculum requirements under
22 paragraph (4);

23 (C) the requirements for qualified instruc-
24 tors under subsection (d)(5); and

1 (D) the requirements for eligible pilots
2 under subsection (d)(2).

3 (6) DATA.—Under the Program, the Adminis-
4 trator shall require that each qualified air carrier
5 participating in the Program collect and submit to
6 the Administrator such data from the Program that
7 the Administrator determines is appropriate for the
8 Administrator to provide for oversight of the Pro-
9 gram.

10 (7) REGULAR INSPECTION.—Under the Pro-
11 gram, the Administrator shall provide for the reg-
12 ular inspection of qualified air carriers certified
13 under paragraph (5) to ensure that the air carrier
14 continues to meet the requirements under the Pro-
15 gram.

16 (b) REGULATIONS.—The Administrator may issue
17 regulations or guidance as determined necessary to carry
18 out the Program.

19 (c) CLARIFICATION REGARDING REQUIRED FLIGHT
20 HOURS.—The provisions of this section shall have no ef-
21 fect on the total flight hours required under part 61.159
22 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, to receive an air-
23 line transport pilot certificate, or the Administrator's au-
24 thority under section 217(d) of the Airline Safety and
25 Federal Aviation Administration Extension Act of 2010

1 (49 U.S.C. 44701 note) (as in effect on the date of enact-
2 ment of this section).

3 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) AIR CARRIER.—The term “air carrier” has
5 the meaning given that term in section 40102 of
6 title 49, United States Code.

7 (2) ELIGIBLE PILOT.—The term “eligible pilot”
8 means a pilot that—

9 (A) has—

10 (i) graduated from a United States
11 Armed Forces undergraduate pilot training
12 school;

13 (ii) obtained a degree with an aviation
14 major from an institution of higher edu-
15 cation (as defined in part 61.1 of title 14,
16 Code of Federal Regulations) that has
17 been issued a letter of authorization by the
18 Administrator under part 61.169 of such
19 title 14; or

20 (iii) completed flight and ground
21 training for a commercial pilot certificate
22 in the airplane category and an airplane
23 instrument rating at a certified training in-
24 stitution under part 141 of such title 14;

1 (B) has a current commercial pilot certifi-
2 cate under part 61.123 of such title 14, with
3 airplane category multi-engine and instrument
4 ratings under part 61.129 of such title 14; and

5 (C) meets the pilot assessment require-
6 ments under subsection (a)(3).

7 (3) QUALIFIED AIR CARRIER.—The term
8 “qualified air carrier” means an air carrier that has
9 been issued a part 119 operating certificate for con-
10 ducting operations under part 121 of title 14, Code
11 of Federal Regulations.

12 (4) QUALIFIED EVALUATOR.—The term “quali-
13 fied evaluator” means an individual that meets the
14 requirements for a training center evaluator under
15 part 142.55 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations,
16 or for check airmen under part 121.411 of such title
17 14.

18 (5) QUALIFIED INSTRUCTOR.—The term
19 “qualified instructor” means an individual that—

20 (A) is qualified in accordance with the
21 minimum training requirements for an ATP
22 Certification Training Program under para-
23 graphs (1) through (3) of part 121.410(b) of
24 title 14, Code of Federal Regulations;

1 (B) if the instructor is a flight instructor,
2 is qualified in accordance with part
3 121.410(b)(4) of such title 14;

4 (C) if the instructor is administering type
5 rating practical tests, is qualified as an appro-
6 priate examiner for such rating;

7 (D) received training in threat and error
8 management, facilitation, and risk mitigation
9 determined appropriate by the Administrator;
10 and

11 (E) meets any other requirement deter-
12 mined appropriate by the Administrator.