

# **FAA SMS Compliance Review Act of 2024**

## **Section-by-Section Summary**

### **Sec. 1. Short Title**

This section states that the bill may be cited as the “FAA SMS Compliance Review Act of 2024”.

### **Sec. 2. Definitions**

This section provides global definitions for the terms “Administrator,” “Appropriate Committees of Congress,” “FAA,” and “SMS.”

### **Sec. 3. Expert Compliance Review of FAA Safety Management System**

This section directs the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to convene an independent expert review panel to review and evaluate FAA orders and policies to inform the FAA’s implementation of a comprehensive and integrated SMS for all lines of business within the FAA.

The review panel is directed to review (i) the extent to which FAA’s SMS complies with relevant FAA orders and policies; (ii) the actual and projected safety enhancements achieved through FAA’s prior implementation of SMS; (iii) the effectiveness of FAA’s SMS including with respect to the four components of SMS, (iv) the extent to which the SMS and each of the four components of SMS are integrated among all lines of business of the FAA and understood and communicated to the personnel at the FAA, (v) the efficacy of FAA’s voluntary reporting program as part of SMS, (vi) whether the U.S. should advocate at ICAO for changes, as appropriate, to Annex 19, and (vii) any other matter determined by the Administrator for which review by the review panel would be consistent with the public interest in aviation safety. This section also requires the review panel to make findings and recommendations, and issue a report to the FAA and Congress based on the review.

### **Sec. 4. FAA’s Safety Risk Management Processes**

This section directs the Administrator, no later than 1 year after the date of enactment, to develop and implement effective processes for performing root cause analyses to identify opportunities for improvement in the FAA’s execution of its regulatory oversight responsibilities. This section requires the Administrator to brief Congress no later than 30 dates after the implementation of such processes.

### **Sec. 5. FAA Production Audits**

This section directs the Administrator to revise the production audit procedures of the FAA no later than 6 months after the date of enactment. The Administrator is directed to provide no more than 7 days advance notice of upcoming audit and direct inspectors to audit systemic compliance with quality system elements identified in section 21.137 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, in addition to compliance with individual requirements of a production certificate holder’s quality system.