

Public Law 105-142  
105th Congress

An Act

Dec. 5, 1997

[H.R. 2626]

To make clarifications to the Pilot Records Improvement Act of 1996, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. RECORDS OF EMPLOYMENT OF PILOT APPLICANTS.**

Section 44936(f) of title 49, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1) by striking “Before hiring an individual” and inserting “Subject to paragraph (14), before allowing an individual to begin service”;

(2) in paragraph (1)(B) by inserting “as a pilot of a civil or public aircraft” before “at any time”;

(3) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by inserting “and air carriers” after “Administrator”; and

(B) by striking “paragraph (1)(A)” and inserting “paragraphs (1)(A) and (1)(B)”;

(4) in paragraph (5) by striking “this paragraph” and inserting “this subsection”;

(5) in paragraph (10)—

(A) by inserting “who is or has been” before “employed”; and

(B) by inserting “, but not later than 30 days after the date” after “reasonable time”; and

(6) by adding at the end the following:

“(14) SPECIAL RULES WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN PILOTS.—

“(A) PILOTS OF CERTAIN SMALL AIRCRAFT.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), an air carrier, before receiving information requested about an individual under paragraph (1), may allow the individual to begin service for a period not to exceed 90 days as a pilot of an aircraft with a maximum payload capacity (as defined in section 119.3 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations) of 7,500 pounds or less, or a helicopter, on a flight that is not a scheduled operation (as defined in such section). Before the end of the 90-day period, the air carrier shall obtain and evaluate such information. The contract between the carrier and the individual shall contain a term that provides that the continuation of the individual’s employment, after the last day of the 90-day period, depends on a satisfactory evaluation.

“(B) GOOD FAITH EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), an air carrier, without obtaining information about an individual under paragraph (1)(B) from an air carrier or other person that no longer exists, may allow the individual to begin service as a pilot if the air carrier required to request the information has made a documented good faith attempt to obtain such information.”

Approved December 5, 1997.

---

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—H.R. 2626:

HOUSE REPORTS: No. 105-372 (Comm. on Transportation and Infrastructure).  
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 143 (1997):

Nov. 9, considered and passed House.  
Nov. 13, considered and passed Senate.