

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

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

To establish an aviation maintenance workforce development pilot program.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MORAN, and Ms. CANTWELL) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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**A BILL**

To establish an aviation maintenance workforce development pilot program.

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. AVIATION MAINTENANCE WORKFORCE DEVEL-**  
4 **OPMENT PILOT PROGRAM.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Federal  
6 Aviation Administration may carry out a pilot program to  
7 provide grants for eligible projects to support the edu-  
8 cation and recruitment of aviation maintenance technical  
9 workers and the development of the aviation maintenance  
10 industry workforce.

1 (b) PROJECT GRANTS.—

2 (1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be  
3 appropriated \$5,000,000 for each of the fiscal years  
4 2019 through 2023 to provide grants under the pilot  
5 program established under subsection (a).

6 (2) DOLLAR AMOUNT LIMIT.—Not more than  
7 \$500,000 shall be made available for any one-time  
8 grant in any fiscal year under the pilot program es-  
9 tablished under subsection (a).

10 (c) ELIGIBLE APPLICATIONS.—An application for a  
11 grant under the pilot program established under sub-  
12 section (a) shall be submitted, in such form as the com-  
13 mittee established under subsection (e) may specify, joint-  
14 ly by—

15 (1) a holder of a certificate issued under part  
16 21, 121, 135, or 145 of title 14, Code of Federal  
17 Regulations, or a labor organization representing  
18 aviation maintenance workers;

19 (2) an accredited institution of higher education  
20 (as defined in section 101 of the Higher Education  
21 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001)); and

22 (3) a State or local governmental entity.

23 (d) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—For purposes of the pilot  
24 program established under subsection (a), an eligible  
25 project is a project—

1           (1) to establish new educational programs that  
2           teach technical skills used in aviation maintenance,  
3           including purchasing equipment, or to improve exist-  
4           ing such programs;

5           (2) to establish scholarships or apprenticeships  
6           for individuals pursuing employment in the aviation  
7           maintenance industry;

8           (3) to support outreach about careers in the  
9           aviation maintenance industry to—

10           (A) primary, secondary, and post-sec-  
11           ondary school students; or

12           (B) to communities underrepresented in  
13           the industry;

14           (4) to support educational opportunities related  
15           to aviation maintenance in economically disadvan-  
16           taged geographic areas;

17           (5) to support transition to careers in aviation  
18           maintenance, including for members of the Armed  
19           Forces; or

20           (6) to otherwise enhance aviation maintenance  
21           technical education or the aviation maintenance in-  
22           dustry workforce, as determined by a unanimous  
23           vote of the committee established under subsection  
24           (e).

25           (e) GRANT APPLICATION REVIEW.—

1           (1) REVIEW COMMITTEE.—The Administrator  
2 shall establish a committee to review and select ap-  
3 plications for grants under the pilot program estab-  
4 lished under subsection (a).

5           (2) MEMBERSHIP.—

6           (A) IN GENERAL.—The committee estab-  
7 lished under paragraph (1) shall be comprised  
8 of—

9                   (i) representatives of aircraft repair  
10 stations, air carriers, design and produc-  
11 tion approval holders, labor organizations,  
12 business aviation, general aviation, edu-  
13 cational institutions, and other relevant  
14 sectors; or

15                   (ii) representatives of recognized in-  
16 dustry groups representing entities de-  
17 scribed in clause (i).

18           (B) LIMITATION.—The committee estab-  
19 lished under paragraph (1) shall have not more  
20 than 9 members.