

Protection from Abusive Passengers Act

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Investigated 831 unruly-passenger incidents in 2022, up from 146 just four years ago. The increase in incidents is alarming to the Allied Pilots Association, and we support Congressional efforts to bring this rate back down.

The **FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024** (HR 3935) was signed into law on May 16, 2024. Section 432 directs the FAA Administrator to convene a task force to develop standards and best practices for suspected interference with cabin or flight crew, security screening personnel, or flight attendants.

This task force will develop voluntary standards and best practices for proper and consistent incident documentation and reporting techniques; best practices for flight crew and cabin crew response, including de-escalation; improved coordination between stakeholders, including flight crew and cabin crew, airport staff, other Federal agencies as appropriate, and law enforcement; and appropriate enforcement actions.

Additionally, the FAA Administrator must ensure that crewmembers include in the briefing of passengers before takeoff a statement informing passengers that “it is against Federal law to assault or threaten to assault any individual on an aircraft or interfere with the duties of a crewmember.”

Section 427 of the law modifies basic and advanced air carrier crewmember self-defense training requirements for training that crewmembers can participate in on a voluntary basis; and Section 434 requires part 121 carriers to develop Employee Assault prevention and Response Plans to facilitate appropriate protocols, standards, and training to equip employees with best practices and the experience necessary to respond effectively to hostile situations and disruptive behavior and maintain a safe traveling experience.

The Allied Pilots Association commends Congress for making air travel more secure by addressing this growing threat. We look forward to seeing the recommendations of the task force.

For questions or additional information please email GAC-Chairman@alliedpilots.org