

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 6050

To develop pilot grant programs through the Environmental Protection Agency to research and collect data on aircraft and airport noise and emissions and to use such information and data to develop a mitigation strategy, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 18, 2021

Mr. SMITH of Washington (for himself, Ms. NORTON, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. MOULTON, Ms. MENG, Mr. SUOZZI, Ms. BASS, Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To develop pilot grant programs through the Environmental Protection Agency to research and collect data on aircraft and airport noise and emissions and to use such information and data to develop a mitigation strategy, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2       This Act may be cited as the “Aviation Noise and  
3 Emissions Mitigation Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. NOISE AND AIR QUALITY MONITORING AND RE-**  
5 **SEARCH GRANT PROGRAM.**

6       (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
7 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator of the  
8 Environmental Protection Agency in consultation with  
9 Secretary of Transportation and other relevant Federal  
10 agencies determined by the Administrator, shall establish  
11 a 3-year pilot grant program with eligible entities to meas-  
12 ure noise and emissions, including greenhouse gases, par-  
13 ticulate matter, ultrafine particles, and other toxic pollut-  
14 ants, in communities near airports or air flight pathways  
15 using sophisticated methods and technology that allow  
16 tracing of noise and emissions to specific sources such as  
17 aircraft and airport related noise and emissions near such  
18 communities, including identifying specific neighborhoods,  
19 structures, or areas impacted by such noise and emissions.

20       (b) GRANT ACTIVITIES.—Recipients of grants under  
21 subsection (a) shall—

22           (1) use technology capable of producing data  
23 that can be used for wedge analysis to decipher the  
24 sources of noise and emissions so communities may  
25 better understand the primary contributors of noise  
26 and emissions;

1           (2) make every reasonable effort to establish a  
2           program that can be easily replicated across the  
3           country with the goal of ongoing data collection and  
4           monitoring in areas near airports or air flight path-  
5           ways;

6           (3) produce neighborhood and ZIP code-level  
7           data for a designated area to be used to determine  
8           or predict the level and impact of noise and emis-  
9           sions on certain neighborhoods and ZIP codes of  
10          such area, and to identify frontline and dispropor-  
11          tionately impacted communities;

12          (4) coordinate and regularly communicate with  
13          the local clean air agency (or agencies, if applicable),  
14          local public health departments, local metropolitan  
15          planning organizations, Indian Tribal governments,  
16          community based organizations, and other local gov-  
17          ernment, State government, or non-profit entities as  
18          the grantee determines useful to the project;

19          (5) work with community-based organizations,  
20          some of which may be selected for a grant under  
21          section 2, to assist in developing a mitigation abate-  
22          ment strategy for communities, neighborhoods, or  
23          areas impacted by aircraft or airport noise and emis-  
24          sions;

1           (6) establish a clear plan for disseminating the  
2       data and results of the program on an regular basis;  
3       and

4           (7) consult initially and throughout the process  
5       with the public and relevant community-based orga-  
6       nizations or local governments on the design and  
7       execution of the noise and emissions monitoring pro-  
8       gram.

9       (c) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—An institution of higher  
10     education or other non-profit research entity, health insti-  
11     tution, or local government with demonstrated experience  
12     in conducting either or both aviation noise or emissions  
13     research is eligible to receive a grant under this section.  
14     The Administrator may award not more than 6 awards  
15     under this section.

16       (d) GRANT AWARD AMOUNT.—The Administrator  
17     may award a grant under this section to an eligible entity  
18     of not less than \$2,500,000 and not more than \$5,000,000  
19     for the 3-year grant period.

20       (e) ANNUAL REPORT.—A grantee under the section  
21     shall submit an annual report to the Administrator re-  
22     garding the research conducted and any findings. The Ad-  
23     ministrators shall make such reports publicly available.

1 **SEC. 3. MITIGATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES GRANT PRO-**  
2 **GRAM.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the  
4 submission of the final annual report submitted under sec-  
5 tion 1(e), the Administrator of the Environmental Protec-  
6 tion Agency, in consultation with the Department of  
7 Health and Human Services, Department of Transpor-  
8 tation, or other relevant Federal agencies as determined  
9 by the Administrator, shall establish a pilot grant program  
10 to mitigate aircraft or airport noise and emissions, and  
11 their impacts, in communities near airports and air flight  
12 pathways.

13 (b) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—

14 (1) PRIORITY.—The Administrator shall  
15 prioritize and provide guidance and technical assist-  
16 ance to applicants applications that—

17 (A) focus on communities found to be dis-  
18 proportionately impacted by aviation noise or  
19 emissions identified in the research produced  
20 under the section 1 grant;

21 (B) primarily benefit disadvantaged com-  
22 munities and communities with a higher preva-  
23 lence of diseases associated with environmental  
24 exposures; and

1 (C) demonstrate community support and  
2 involvement from affected communities in their  
3 proposed program.

4 (2) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a  
5 grant under this section, an applicant shall be a  
6 local community-based non-profit organization, a  
7 consortium of community-based non-profit organiza-  
8 tions from a community that participated in the  
9 noise and emissions monitoring program under sec-  
10 tion 1, a local public health department, or a local  
11 or Indian Tribal government. If the recipient is a  
12 public health department or local or Indian Tribal  
13 government, the recipient shall demonstrate commu-  
14 nity support for the program and how it plans to  
15 partner with at least 1 non-profit community-based  
16 organization.

17 (3) MITIGATION STRATEGY.—An applicant shall  
18 demonstrate in its application how the—

19 (A) research conducted under section 1 in-  
20 forms its proposed project design;

21 (B) proposed project addresses environ-  
22 mental or health disparities and the needs and  
23 concerns of affected communities, disadvan-  
24 taged communities, or other communities facing  
25 environmental justice concerns, including how

1 the applicant used the Climate and Economic  
2 Justice Screening Tool or other similar environ-  
3 mental justice mapping tool to effectively target  
4 mitigation strategies;

5 (C) applicant incorporated input from af-  
6 fected communities in its proposed program,  
7 demonstrated community support for the pro-  
8 posed program, and has established a written  
9 plan detailing how the applicant will maintain  
10 ongoing engagement with the affected commu-  
11 nities; and

12 (D) applicant intends to partner or coordi-  
13 nate with relevant local organizations, govern-  
14 ment entities, and service providers such as  
15 local public health departments, Indian Tribal  
16 governments, community health centers, and  
17 local education authorities, depending on the  
18 mitigation plan.

19 (4) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds under the grant  
20 program shall be used to mitigate the impacts of air-  
21 craft or airport noise and emissions on communities  
22 near airports or air flight pathways, including estab-  
23 lishing 1 or more of the following:

24 (A) Noise mitigation packages that may  
25 include weatherization, retrofitting, or energy

1 efficiency upgrades that have noise reduction,  
2 environmental, or health benefits for house-  
3 holds, schools, or other facilities, prioritizing  
4 low-income households and low-resourced com-  
5 munities and facilities, and structures that are  
6 less likely to be eligible for other similar Fed-  
7 eral resources.

8 (B) Programs to promote environmental  
9 and public health services in impacted commu-  
10 nities, including programs that address the dis-  
11 proportionate effects of climate change on envi-  
12 ronmental justice communities.

13 (C) Health care services and environmental  
14 and public health interventions that address un-  
15 derlying impacts from airport noise and pollu-  
16 tion on health and quality of life, especially in  
17 children, vulnerable populations, disadvantaged  
18 communities, and communities of color.

19 (5) DURATION.—A grant under this section  
20 shall be not less than 3 years and not more than 5  
21 years as determined appropriate by the Adminis-  
22 trator.

23 (c) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

24 (1) AFTER 1ST YEAR.—One year after the  
25 awarding of grants under this section, and annually



1 thereafter, the Administrator shall submit a report  
2 to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and  
3 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of  
4 Representatives and the Committees on Environ-  
5 ment and Public Works and Commerce, Science, and  
6 Transportation of the Senate on the activities of the  
7 grant programs to include—

8 (A) the services provided and their tar-  
9 geted beneficiaries (including households,  
10 schools, other facilities, children, adults, sen-  
11 iors);

12 (B) the steps taken by the grantee to en-  
13 gage the public and impacted communities dur-  
14 ing execution of the grant;

15 (C) a breakdown of the areas served under  
16 the grant and if and how such areas align with  
17 locations identified under section 1; and

18 (D) aggregate information about the com-  
19 munities, households, and individuals benefit-  
20 ting from the services provided under the grant,  
21 including a breakdown of the demographic in-  
22 formation and socioeconomic status of individ-  
23 uals and households.

24 (2) AFTER 3D YEAR.—Three years after award-  
25 ing of the first grant under this section, the agency

1       shall submit a report to the congressional commit-  
2       tees referred to in paragraph (1) to include—

3               (A) an assessment of the grant program’s  
4               ability to meet its goal of mitigating airport and  
5               aviation noise and emissions;

6               (B) potential lessons learned to inform fu-  
7               ture efforts to address the impacts of noise and  
8               emissions in communities near airports and air  
9               flight pathways; and

10              (C) a review of how levels and impact of  
11              noise and pollution from airports and air flight  
12              pathways can be incorporated into the Climate  
13              and Economic Justice Screening Tool or other  
14              similar environmental justice mapping tool used  
15              by the Government.

16              (3) INPUT IN REPORT.—The report under this  
17              subsection shall be completed with input from grant-  
18              ees and affected communities.

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