

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3676

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for a child safe viewing area within which covered air carriers shall not display violent in-flight programming.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 26, 2007

Mr. SHULER (for himself, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. HILL, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. WAMP, Mr. SOUDER, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. BARROW, and Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for a child safe viewing area within which covered air carriers shall not display violent in-flight programming.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Family Friendly
5 Flights Act of 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) Children are a captive audience for publicly
 2 viewable in-flight entertainment on commercial avia-
 3 tion flights.

4 (2) Children under the age of 13 are often ex-
 5 posed to non-cartoon images of murder, torture,
 6 general violence and other images terrifying to most
 7 children while traveling on domestic flights in the
 8 United States.

9 **SEC. 3. CHILD SAFE VIEWING AREA.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 417 of
 11 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
 12 end the following new section:

13 **“§ 41724. Child Safe Viewing Area**

14 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF CHILD SAFE VIEWING
 15 AREA.—If a covered air carrier provides publicly viewable
 16 entertainment screens on which violent in-flight program-
 17 ming is displayed, such carrier shall provide a child safe
 18 viewing area for all passengers who are children under the
 19 age of 13 and for at least 1 adult travel companion per
 20 child.

21 “(b) ALLOCATION OF SEATING.—

22 “(1) PRIORITY OF SEATING FOR UNACCOM-
 23 PANIED MINORS.—All unaccompanied children under
 24 the age of 13 shall be seated in the child safe view-
 25 ing area.

1 “(2) OPPORTUNITY TO REQUEST SEATING IN
2 CHILD SAFE VIEWING AREA.—A covered air carrier,
3 a ticket agent, or an individual employed by a cov-
4 ered air carrier or ticket agent, when issuing a ticket
5 to an adult traveling with a child under the age of
6 13, shall offer the opportunity to request seating in
7 the child safe viewing area.

8 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section,
9 the following definitions apply:

10 “(1) CHILD SAFE VIEWING AREA.—The term
11 ‘child safe viewing area’ means an area on an air-
12 craft operated by a covered air carrier in which
13 there are no publicly viewable entertainment screens
14 displaying violent in-flight programming located
15 within 10 rows of seating of such area.

16 “(2) COVERED AIR CARRIER.—The term ‘cov-
17 ered air carrier’ means an air carrier that provides
18 scheduled passenger interstate air transportation or
19 scheduled passenger intrastate air transportation.

20 “(3) PUBLICLY VIEWABLE ENTERTAINMENT
21 SCREEN.—

22 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘publicly
23 viewable entertainment screen’ means a video
24 screen prominently located in the passenger
25 compartment of an aircraft and viewable by

1 more than 3 passengers, including all screens
2 located in the aisles and on bulkhead walls.

3 “(B) EXCEPTION.—The term ‘publicly
4 viewable entertainment screen’ does not include
5 a personal video screen located on the back of
6 a seat or a stowable screen intended for single-
7 passenger use.

8 “(4) VIOLENT IN-FLIGHT PROGRAMMING.—The
9 term ‘violent in-flight programming’ means—

10 “(A) motion pictures that were either not
11 rated by the Motion Picture Association of
12 America (MPAA) or were rated PG–13, R, or
13 NC–17 by the MPAA; or

14 “(B) video programming that, when origi-
15 nally distributed for transmission through
16 broadcast, a cable system, or satellite carrier,
17 was not rated or was rated TV–PG–V, TV–13–
18 V, TV–14–V, TV–MA–V, or otherwise rated as
19 a program that parents may find unsuitable for
20 younger children on the basis of violence.”.

21 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The analysis for
22 chapter 417 of title 49, United States Code, is amended
23 by adding at the end of the items relating to subchapter
24 I the following:

“41724. Child safe viewing area.”.

1 **SEC. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2 The amendments made by section 3 shall take effect
3 on January 1, 2008.

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