

**AMENDMENT TO
RULES COMMITTEE PRINT 115-25
OFFERED BY MR. CUELLAR OF TEXAS**

Page 386, after line 19, insert the following:

1 **SEC. ____ . AVAILABILITY OF SLOTS AND SLOT EXEMPTIONS**
2 **FOR AIR CARRIERS AT RONALD REAGAN**
3 **WASHINGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT.**

4 (a) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-
5 gress that no additional slots should be added to Ronald
6 Reagan Washington National Airport.

7 (b) LIMITED SLOT CONVERSIONS FOR BEYOND PE-
8 RIMETER OPERATIONS AT RONALD REAGAN WASH-
9 INGTON NATIONAL AIRPORT.—

10 (1) AUTHORIZATION OF ADDITIONAL SLOT EX-
11 EMPTIONS.—Notwithstanding sections 49104(a)(5),
12 49109, and 41714 of title 49, United States Code,
13 not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-
14 ment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation
15 shall, by order, grant exemptions from the require-
16 ments of subparts K and S of part 93 of title 14,
17 Code of Federal Regulations, to enable air carriers
18 to operate limited frequencies and aircraft on routes
19 between Ronald Reagan Washington National Air-

1 port and airports located beyond the perimeter re-
2 striction.

3 (2) BEYOND-PERIMETER OPERATIONS.—The
4 Secretary shall make available, upon request, not
5 more than 2 exemptions made available under para-
6 graph (1) to each air carrier that—

7 (A) sells flights in its own name;

8 (B) has daily scheduled service at Ronald
9 Reagan Washington National Airport as of the
10 date of the enactment of this Act; and

11 (C) commits, in using such an exemp-
12 tion—

13 (i) to discontinue the use of a slot for
14 service between Ronald Reagan Wash-
15 ington National Airport and a large hub
16 airport within the perimeter restriction and
17 to operate, in place of such service, service
18 between Ronald Reagan Washington Na-
19 tional Airport and a medium hub airport,
20 small hub airport, or nonhub airport lo-
21 cated—

22 (I) beyond the perimeter restric-
23 tion that has no daily nonstop air
24 service to Ronald Reagan Washington

1 National Airport as of the date of the
2 enactment of this Act; and

3 (II) within 25 miles of a military
4 medical center, an extremity injury
5 and amputee center of excellence, as
6 defined by the Duncan Hunter Na-
7 tional Defense Authorization Act for
8 Fiscal Year 2009 (Public Law 110–
9 417), or a traumatic brain injury or
10 burn treatment facility;

11 (ii) to operate an aircraft (other than
12 a multi-aisle or wide-body aircraft) with
13 equal or lesser passenger seating capacity
14 when compared to the aircraft used on
15 service discontinued under clause (i); and

16 (iii) to file a notice of intent with the
17 Secretary to inform the Secretary of any
18 change in circumstances concerning the
19 use of the exemption that specifies the air-
20 port to be served using the exemption, the
21 type of aircraft to be used, and the slot the
22 carrier is discontinuing under clause (i).

23 (3) AIR CARRIER DISCRETION.—Except with re-
24 spect to the requirements of paragraph (2), an air
25 carrier that receives an exemption under paragraph

1 (1) shall have sole discretion concerning the use of
2 the exemption, including the selection of the initial
3 airport and any subsequent airports to be served.

4 (4) RETURN OF WITHIN-PERIMETER SLOTS.—
5 An air carrier shall be entitled to the return by the
6 Secretary of a slot for flights within the perimeter
7 restriction if the use of an exemption made available
8 to the air carrier under paragraph (1) is discon-
9 tinued.

10 (5) PROHIBITION AGAINST TRANSFERS.—In ac-
11 cordance with section 41714(j) of title 49, United
12 States Code, an exemption granted under paragraph
13 (1) to an air carrier may not be bought, sold, leased,
14 or otherwise transferred by the air carrier.

15 (c) APPLICABILITY.—

16 (1) IN GENERAL.—The provisions of subsection
17 (b) shall be suspended for not more than 1 year if
18 the Secretary makes a determination that changes to
19 air transportation at Ronald Reagan Washington
20 National Airport pursuant to this section are not in
21 the public interest.

22 (2) RENEWALS.—The Secretary may renew the
23 suspension of subsection (b) pursuant to paragraph
24 (1) for additional periods of not more than 1 year
25 if the Secretary updates the determination under

1 that paragraph before the end of the preceding 1
2 year period.

3 (3) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary
4 shall notify the Committee on Commerce, Science,
5 and Transportation of the Senate and the Com-
6 mittee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the
7 House of Representatives not later than 14 calendar
8 days after making a determination under paragraph
9 (1) and shall specify, in that notification, the rea-
10 sons for the determination.

11 (d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following defi-
12 nitions apply:

13 (1) NEW ENTRANT AIR CARRIER; LIMITED IN-
14 CUMBENT AIR CARRIER; SLOT.—The terms “new en-
15 trant air carrier”, “limited incumbent air carrier”,
16 and “slot” have the meanings given those terms in
17 section 41714(h) of title 49, United States Code.

18 (2) LARGE HUB AIRPORT; MEDIUM HUB AIR-
19 PORT; SMALL HUB AIRPORT; NONHUB AIRPORT.—
20 The terms “large hub airport”, “medium hub air-
21 port”, “small hub airport”, and “nonhub airport”
22 have the meanings given those terms in section
23 40102(a) of title 49, United States Code.

24 (3) PERIMETER RESTRICTION.—The term “pe-
25 rimeter restriction” means the restriction under sec-

1 tion 49109 of title 49, United States Code, on the
2 operation of aircraft nonstop in air transportation
3 between Ronald Reagan Washington National Air-
4 port and another airport that is more than 1,250
5 statute miles away from Ronald Reagan Washington
6 National Airport.

