

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 4
OFFERED BY MR. PERLMUTTER OF COLORADO

At the end of title V, insert the following:

1 **SEC. 5** ____ . **HELICOPTER FUEL SYSTEM SAFETY.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 447 of title 49, United
3 States Code, is further amended by adding at the end the
4 following:

5 **“§ 44738. Helicopter fuel system safety**

6 “(a) PROHIBITION.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—A person may not operate
8 a covered rotorcraft in United States airspace unless
9 the design of the rotorcraft is certified by the Ad-
10 ministrator of the Federal Aviation Administration
11 to—

12 “(A) comply with the requirements applica-
13 ble to the category of the rotorcraft under para-
14 graphs (1), (2), (3), (5), and (6) of section
15 27.952(a), section 27.952(c), section 27.952(f),
16 section 27.952(g), section 27.963(g) (but allow-
17 ing for a minimum puncture force of 250
18 pounds if successfully drop tested in-structure),
19 and section 27.975(b) or paragraphs (1), (2),
20 (3), (5), and (6) of section 29.952(a), section

1 29.952(c), section 29.952(f), section
2 29.952(g),section 29.963(b) (but allowing for a
3 minimum puncture force of 250 pounds if suc-
4 cessfully drop tested in-structure), and
5 29.975(a)(7) of title 14, Code of Federal Regu-
6 lations, as in effect on the date of enactment;
7 or

8 “(B) employ other means acceptable to the
9 Administrator to provide an equivalent level of
10 fuel system crash resistance.

11 “(2) COVERED ROTORCRAFT DEFINED.—In this
12 subsection, the term ‘covered rotorcraft’ means a
13 rotorcraft not otherwise required to comply with sec-
14 tion 27.952, section 27.963, and section 27.975, or
15 section 29.952, section 29.963, and section 29.975
16 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations as in effect
17 on the date of enactment for which manufacture was
18 completed, as determined by the Administrator, on
19 or after the date that is 18 months after the date
20 of enactment of this section.

21 “(b) ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.—The Adminis-
22 trator shall—

23 “(1) expedite the certification and validation of
24 United States and foreign type designs and retrofit
25 kits that improve fuel system crashworthiness; and

1 “(2) not later than 180 days after the date of
2 enactment of this section, and periodically there-
3 after, issue a bulletin to—

4 “(A) inform rotorcraft owners and opera-
5 tors of available modifications to improve fuel
6 system crashworthiness; and

7 “(B) urge that such modifications be in-
8 stalled as soon as practicable.

9 “(c) **RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**—Nothing in this sec-
10 tion may be construed to affect the operation of a rotor-
11 craft by the Department of Defense.”.

12 (b) **CLERICAL AMENDMENT.**—The analysis for chap-
13 ter 447 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by
14 adding at the end the following:

“44738. Helicopter fuel system safety.”.

