

FAA Bill Requires 119 New Reports to Congress

By Jeff Davis



October 5, 2018

The staffs of the House and Senate transportation committees are going to be doing a lot of reading over the next three years. The [new Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization bill](#), which President Trump will sign into law later today, requires various entities (mostly, but not always, the FAA) to submit 119 new reports to Congress in the coming years.

Requirements for new reports and studies are often offered by committee staff in lieu of actual policy changes. Member X wants an amendment to the bill requiring the FAA to do something, the committee staff says well, how about we just make the FAA study it instead and report back to us, then we will decide whether or not to force their hand in the next reauthorization bill. (Sometimes if members won't accept a study, they get a temporary and limited pilot program instead of a full-blown new program or policy.)

Deadlines are almost always given in terms of days or months after the date of the enactment of the bill (which will be today, October 5, 2018). There is no rhyme or reason to why some sections say "6 months" and others say "180 days" except for which staffer or legislative counsel drafted that particular provision.

Unless the FAA and GAO hires new staff specifically to produce these reports, many of them won't be met by the precise deadline. There are no legal penalties for missing the deadlines.

Here is the full list, in the order that that section appears in the [bill text](#). In some cases, where an agency is ordered to review something within x days and then report back to Congress y days after that, we have combined x and y for a composite report deadline.



Bill Sec.	Who Reports?	Nature of study/report	What is the due date?
122	Unknown	Airport infrastructure needs and revenues	Due 15 months after enactment
142	FAA	Airport safety technology	Due 18 months after enactment
143	GAO	Airport revenue diversion	Due 18 months after enactment
144	GAO	Exclusive right of service	Within 2 years after enactment
146	FAA	Critical airfield markings	RFP by 180 days after enactment
176	FAA	Community involvement in NextGen	Due 240 days after enactment
177	TRB	Lead in aviation gasoline	Due 1 year after enactment
170	FAA	Approach/takeoff speed and noise	Due 2 years after enactment
181	FAA	Civil supersonic aircraft	Due 1 year after enactment
186	GAO	Stage 3 noise	Due 18 months after enactment
187	FAA	Airport noise exposure review	Due 2 years after enactment
188	FAA	Day-night noise levels	Due 1 year after enactment
189	A university	Health impacts of airport noise	Commence within 180 days of enactment
213	FAA panel	ODA certification program	Due within 300 days of enactment
215	GAO	Small GA certification	Due within 18 months of enactment
216	FAA	ODA staffing and oversight	Due within 270 days of enactment
222	FAA task force	Flight standards reform	Due within 15 months of enactment
231	FAA	Safety workforce training strategy	Due within 11 months of enactment
232	GAO	Workforce review	Due within 1 year of enactment
243	FAA	Strategic plan for international engagement	Due within 1 year of enactment
303	DOT IG	Audit of safety critical staffing model	Due within 1 year of enactment
305	FAA	Aircraft data access/retrieval systems	Due within 15 months of enactment
306	FAA	Review of advanced cockpit displays	Due within 18 months of enactment
308	FAA & NTSB	Joint review of general aviation safety	Due within 1 year of enactment
309	FAA	Call to Action airline engine safety review	Due 90 days after review is concluded
313	FAA	Conspicuity of airport surface vehicles	Due by July 1, 2019
314	FAA	Air ambulance availability information	Due within 13 months of enactment
315	FAA	Aviation rulemaking committee recommendations on part 135 pilot rest and duty rules	Due 2 years after enactment
316	FAA	National Test Equipment Program	Due 180 days after enactment
323	FAA	Unoccupied exit rows	Due 1 year after enactment
324	GAO	FAA enforcement policy review	Due 1 year after enactment
325	FAA	Part 121 airline safety oversight	Due 1 year after enactment
326	FAA	Evaluation of bleed air quality	Due 18 months after enactment
328	FAA	Airline and passenger safety (plane age)	Due 180 days after enactment
330	FAA	Airport power outage risks	Due 1 year after enactment
331	DOT IG	ASIAS system review	Commence within 90 days of enactment
333	Working group	Lithium battery report	Due within 15 months of enactment
333	Adv. Comm.	Lithium battery report	Due within 240 days of enactment



334	FAA	Runway safety	Due within 6 months of enactment
337	FAA	Aircraft cabin evacuation procedures	Due 1 year after enactment
339	Task force	In-flight sexual misconduct	Due 1 year after enactment
342	DOT	UAS program alignment report	Due 90 days after enactment
358	GAO	UAS privacy review	Due 180 days after enactment
359	FAA	Use of UAS by fire departments	Due 180 days after enactment
360	GAO	UAS service financing	Due within 240 days of enactment
361	FAA	UAS cropdusting regulations	Due 1 year after enactment
364	FAA	Counter-UAS systems	Due 240 days after enactment
371	FAA & NAPA	Small UAS registration compliance	Due 1 year after enactment
372	FAA	UAS safety enforcement pilot program	Due 1 year after enactment
373	GAO	Federal and local UAS authorities	Commence within 180 days of enactment
374	FAA	UAS spectrum allocations	Due within 270 days of enactment
376	FAA	UTM pilot program	Due 1 year after conclusion of program
406	DOT	Study of actual flight times	Due 1 year after enactment
407	GAO	Discrimination training policies	Due 180 days after enactment
410	DOT	Study baggage reporting BCA	Due 6 months after enactment
411	GAO	Consumer protection rule enforcement	Due 1 year after enactment
413	DOT & FAA	Causes of airline delays and cancellations	Due 18 months after enactment
414	DOT	Involuntary passenger itinerary changes	Due 15 months after enactment
416	DOT	Online access to consumer protection info	Due 180 days after enactment
418	Adv. Comm.	Air ambulance patient billing	Due 180 days after first meeting
420	DOT	Air ambulance oversight	Due 180 days after sec. 418 study
424	DOT	Consumer complaints by carrier	Annually
425	GAO	Ticket oversales	Due 1 year after enactment
426	GAO	Lavatories on aircraft	Due 180 days after enactment
431	GAO	Consumers with disabilities	Due 2 years after enactment
432	ATBCB	In-cabin wheelchair restraint systems	Due 3 years after enactment
438	Adv. Comm.	Needs of disabled air passengers	Due 6 months after first meeting
452	GAO	Essential Air Service	Due 180 days after enactment
454	DOT IG	Oversight of unsubsidized EAS carriers	Due 1 year after enactment
502	FAA	ATC modernization update	Due 180 days after enactment
502	DOT IG	Review of the ATC modernization update	Due 270 days after release of FAA report
503	FAA	NextGen return on investment	Due 1 year after enactment
504	FAA	ATC operational contingenc plans	Due 14 months after enactment
505	FAA	2020 ADS-B Out mandate plan	Due 90 days after enactment
507	FAA	NextGen human factors	Due 1 year after enactment
509	FAA	Strategic FAA cybersecurity plan	Due 18 months after enactment
511	FAA	Actions taken per 2012 FAA reform report	Due 60 days after enactment
511	FAA	New review of duplicative and wasteful programs	Due 21 months after enactment
513	FAA	Part 91 oversight and authorization	Due 1 year after enactment



515	GAO	Study of pilots sharing flight expenses with passengers	Due 9 months after enactment
519	DOT IG	FAA data transparency	Due 9 months after enactment
519	FAA	FAA data transparency	Due 60 days after IG review is complete
519	FAA	Air traffic services cost allocation	March 31, 2019 and biennially thereafter
521	DOT IG	Audit of FAA Admin. Services Franchise Fund	Due 210 days after enactment
529	DOT	Report on temporary flight restrictions	Due 1 year after enactment
533	Adv. Panel	Review of FAA Performance Management System	Due 18 months after enactment
534	DOT IG	Impact of NextGen delivery delays	Due 18 months after enactment
535	FAA	Allergic reactions onboard aircraft	Due 120 days after enactment
537	GAO	Air cargo in Carribean basin	Due 1 year after enactment
540	DOT	Illegal charter flights	Due 180 days after enactment
543	FAA	Airspace use at Defense Dept firing ranges	Due 180 days after enactment
544	DOT	Report on FAA Buy American statistics	Due 90 days after the end of each FY
546	FAA	Civil aviation registry upgrade report	Due 1 year after enactment
547	FAA	Enhanced air traffic services pilot program	Due 90 days after pilot program ends
549	TRB	FAA cybersecurity workfore study	Due 18 months after enactment
551	GAO	Assault on airline customer reps	Due 180 days after enactment
552	DOT	Study of airline customer service training	Due 1 year after enactment
553	FAA	Automaic weather observing systems	Due by September 30, 2025
554	TRB	HIMS and FADAP programs	No deadline
555	GAO	Equipment rental cost-effectiveness	Due 2 years after enactment
558	DOT IG	FAA performance measures and targets	Due 2 years after enactment
559	FAA	NYC-Newark ATC scheduling and staffing	Due 90 days after enactment
567	GAO	FAA workforce review	Due 270 days after enactment
568	Forest Serv.	Air tanker firefighting	Due 1 year after enactment
569	FAA	FAA technical workforce plan	Due 1 year after enactment
570	DOT	Feasibility of TIFIA-like program for airports	Due 270 days after enactment
572	FAA	FAA MAC review of airspace changes	Due 2 years after enactment
574	DOT-DOD	DoD support of FAA employees in Guam	Due 180 days after enactment
575	GAO	Airline computer disruptions	Due 1 year after enactment
580	DOT	Spaceport infrastructure	Due 1 year after enactment
580	GAO	Spaceport infrastructure matching grants	Due 1 year after enactment
583	DOT	Status of underclared air hazmat public awareness campaign	Due 1 year after enactment
612	Adv. Board	Plan for women in the aviation workforce	Due 2 years after enactment
622	GAO	Aviation workforce of the future	Due 1 year after enactment
624	GAO	Aviation maintenance tech workers	Due 1 year after enactment
732	NOAA-FAA	Effects of extreme weather on commercial travel	Due 1 year after enactment
741	FAA	New technologies certification research plan	Due 1 year after enactment



742	FAA	New aircraft fuel efficiency technology	Due 1 year after enactment
761	FAA	NextGen priority research areas	Due 1 year after enactment