

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2997
OFFERED BY MR. LIPINSKI OF ILLINOIS

Add at the end of title VI, the following:

1 **SEC. 6___ . GAO STUDY.**

2 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment
3 of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the
4 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of
5 the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and In-
6 frastructure of the House of Representatives a report con-
7 taining a review of the following:

8 (1) The commonalities and differences of com-
9 puter network architecture used by air carriers oper-
10 ating under part 121 of title 14, Code of Federal
11 Regulations.

12 (2) Analysis of operationally critical functions,
13 including consideration of passenger-facing functions
14 such as reservation and notification systems, aircraft
15 dispatch functions and how information regarding
16 such functions and systems is transmitted to
17 outstations, maintenance monitoring and planning
18 systems, and crew scheduling systems.

19 (3) The impact of consolidated systems and
20 software that handle multiple critical functions.

1 (4) The most common causes of airline com-
2 puter network disruptions.

3 (5) Industry best practices to prevent, and miti-
4 gate the impacts of, network disruptions.

5 **SEC. 6____. COMPUTER NETWORK RESILIENCY.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Any schedule change resulting
7 from a computer network disruption, security breach, or
8 other inoperability, may be considered an event within an
9 air carrier’s control as determined by the Secretary of
10 Transportation.

11 (b) COMPUTER NETWORK RESILIENCY WORKING
12 GROUP.—The Secretary of Transportation shall work
13 closely with the airline industry computer network resil-
14 iency working group established under section 6____ to
15 improve computer networks for air carriers.

16 (c) FINAL RULE.—Not later than 1 year after the
17 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation
18 shall publish a final rule that requires an air carrier oper-
19 ating under part 121 of title 14, Code of Federal Regula-
20 tions, to submit to the Administrator of the Federal Avia-
21 tion Administration a plan detailing, at a minimum—

22 (1) the maintenance of computer network sys-
23 tems used to perform functions critical to the nor-
24 mal operation of the carrier;

1 as “the working group”) to serve as subject matter experts
2 to the Secretary to foster collaboration and facilitate im-
3 provements in the resilience of computer networks used
4 by air carriers in carrying out functions critical to the
5 maintenance of regularly scheduled air transportation
6 service, and in the recovery of operations in the event of
7 network disruptions.

8 (b) OBJECTIVES.—Objectives of the working group
9 shall include efforts—

10 (1) to promote communication and coordination
11 regarding computer network architecture across the
12 airline industry;

13 (2) to promote engagement between industry
14 and government stakeholders regarding the develop-
15 ment of guidelines and best practices;

16 (3) to review past disruptions and lessons
17 learned; and

18 (4) to serve as the liaison between industry and
19 government representatives on research and develop-
20 ment and emerging technologies that enhance com-
21 puter network resiliency.

22 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—Membership on the working
23 group shall include representatives who have responsibility
24 for computer networks and their maintenance, including—

1 (1) at a minimum, Government representatives
2 of the Federal Aviation Administration and the De-
3 partment of Homeland Security; and

4 (2) voluntary participation of representatives
5 from the airline industry and their contractors and
6 suppliers.

7 (d) MEETINGS.—The working group shall meet not
8 less than twice each year and may convene for additional
9 meetings as needed. The group shall meet for a period
10 of not less than 2 years.

11 (e) REPORT.—The working group shall submit a re-
12 port to the Secretary of Transportation that establishes
13 voluntary guidelines for the resiliency of airline computer
14 networks that handle operationally critical functions, best
15 practices, and the conditions under which the working
16 group may need to periodically meet or reconvene.

