

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To prohibit the use of funds provided for the official travel expenses of Members of Congress and officers or employees of the legislative branch for airline accommodations which are not coach-class accommodations, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mrs. ERNST introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

To prohibit the use of funds provided for the official travel expenses of Members of Congress and officers or employees of the legislative branch for airline accommodations which are not coach-class accommodations, and for other purposes.

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 “Coach-Only Airfare
5 for Capitol Hill Act of 2017”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITING USE OF FUNDS FOR OFFICIAL TRAV-**
2 **EL EXPENSES OF MEMBERS OF CONGRESS**
3 **AND LEGISLATIVE BRANCH EMPLOYEES FOR**
4 **AIRLINE ACCOMMODATIONS OTHER THAN**
5 **COACH-CLASS.**

6 (a) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
7 sion of law, no funds appropriated or otherwise made
8 available for the official travel expenses of a Member of
9 Congress or other officer or employee of any office, agen-
10 cy, or other establishment in the legislative branch may
11 be used for airline accommodations that are not coach-
12 class accommodations, except as provided in subsection
13 (b).

14 (b) EXCEPTIONS.—Funds described in subsection (a)
15 may be used for airline accommodations which are not
16 coach-class accommodations for an individual described in
17 such subsection if the use of the funds for such accom-
18 modations would be permitted under sections 301–10.121
19 through 301–10.125 of title 41, Code of Federal Regula-
20 tions, or any successor thereto, if the individual were an
21 employee of an agency that is subject to chapter 301 of
22 such title.

23 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act
24 may be construed to affect any officer or employee of the
25 legislative branch who, as of the date of the enactment

1 of this Act, is subject to chapter 301 of title 41, Code
2 of Federal Regulations.

3 (d) UPDATING TRAVEL RULES.—Not later than 90
4 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Com-
5 mittee on Rules and Administration of the Senate and the
6 Committee on House Administration of the House of Rep-
7 resentatives shall each—

8 (1) review any rule, guidance, or policy issued
9 by the Committee relating to official airline travel;
10 and

11 (2) make any modifications necessary to such
12 rule, guidance, or policy due to the requirements of
13 this Act.

14 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

15 In this Act:

16 (1) COACH-CLASS ACCOMMODATIONS.—The
17 term “coach-class accommodations” means the basic
18 class of accommodation by airlines that is normally
19 the lowest fare offered regardless of airline termi-
20 nology used, and (as referred to by airlines) may in-
21 clude tourist class or economy class, as well as single
22 class when the airline offers only one class of accom-
23 modations to all travelers.

24 (2) MEMBER OF CONGRESS.—The term “Mem-
25 ber of Congress” means a Senator or a Representa-

1 tive in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to,
2 the Congress.

3 **SEC. 4. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.**

4 Section 506(e) of the Supplemental Appropriations
5 Act, 1973 (2 U.S.C. 6314(e)) is amended by inserting
6 “section 2 of the Coach-Only Airfare for Capitol Hill Act
7 of 2017 and” after “in accordance with”.

8 **SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

9 This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall
10 apply with respect to fiscal year 2018 and each succeeding
11 fiscal year.