

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit aircraft from having in place cameras and microphones that can monitor passengers.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit aircraft from having in place cameras and microphones that can monitor passengers.

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 “Passenger Privacy Pro-
5 tection Act of 2019”.

1 **SEC. 2. PROHIBITIONS RELATING TO CAMERAS AND**
2 **MICROPHONES ON AIRCRAFT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter I of chapter 417 of
4 title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
5 end the following:

6 **“SEC. 41725. PROHIBITIONS RELATING TO CAMERAS AND**
7 **MICROPHONES ON AIRCRAFT.**

8 “(a) PROHIBITIONS.—The following rules shall apply
9 to all aircraft of an air carrier and a foreign air carrier:

10 “(1) Any in-flight entertainment system in-
11 stalled on the aircraft after the date of the enact-
12 ment of this section may not have an embedded
13 camera or microphone. In the case where the air-
14 craft has, as of such date of enactment, a existing
15 camera or microphone embedded in an in-flight en-
16 tertainment system, by not later than 2 months
17 after such date of enactment—

18 “(A) the camera shall be either—

19 “(i) removed;

20 “(ii) permanently disabled and cov-
21 ered; or

22 “(iii) covered in a fashion that pre-
23 vents the camera from making any obser-
24 vation; and

25 “(B) the microphone shall be either—

26 “(i) removed; or

1 foreign air carriers (as such terms are defined in section
2 40102 of title 49, United States Code) regarding the in-
3 formation the carrier collects with respect to passengers
4 on its aircraft, including any information obtained through
5 the physical surveillance of passengers.