

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 3043

To modernize training programs at aviation maintenance technician schools,
and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 12, 2019

Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, and Mrs. CAPITO)
introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To modernize training programs at aviation maintenance
technician schools, 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 “Promoting Aviation
5 Regulations for Technical Training (PARTT) 147 Act of
6 2019”.

7 **SEC. 2. NEW REGULATIONS REQUIRED.**

8 (a) INTERIM FINAL REGULATIONS.—Not later than
9 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Ad-
10 ministrator of the Federal Aviation Administration (in

1 this Act referred to as the “Administrator”) shall issue
 2 interim final regulations to establish requirements for
 3 issuing aviation maintenance technician school certificates
 4 and associated ratings and the general operating rules for
 5 the holders of those certificates and ratings in accordance
 6 with the requirements of this Act.

7 (b) REPEAL OF CURRENT REGULATIONS.—Upon the
 8 effective date of the interim final regulations required
 9 under subsection (a), part 147 of title 14, Code of Federal
 10 Regulations (as in effect on the date of enactment of this
 11 Act) and any regulations issued under section 624 of the
 12 FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018 (Public Law 115–254)
 13 shall have no force or effect on or after the effective date
 14 of such interim final regulations.

15 **SEC. 3. AVIATION MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN SCHOOL**
 16 **CERTIFICATION REQUIRED.**

17 No person may operate an aviation maintenance tech-
 18 nician school without, or in violation of, an aviation main-
 19 tenance technician school certificate and the operations
 20 specifications issued under the interim final regulations
 21 required under section 2(a).

22 **SEC. 4. CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS.**

23 (a) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—An application
 24 for a certificate to operate an aviation maintenance techni-
 25 cian school shall include the following:

1 (1) A description of the facilities, including the
2 physical address of the certificate holder's primary
3 location for operation of the school, any additional
4 fixed locations where training will be provided, and
5 the equipment and materials to be used at each loca-
6 tion.

7 (2) A description of the manner in which the
8 school's curriculum will ensure students are capable
9 of attaining a mechanic certificate and associated
10 ratings under subpart D of part 65 of title 14, Code
11 of Federal Regulations (or any successor regulation).

12 (3) A description of the manner in which the
13 school will ensure it provides the necessary qualified
14 personnel to meet the requirements of section 5(d).

15 (b) CHANGE APPLICATIONS.—An application for an
16 additional rating or amended certificate shall include only
17 the information necessary to substantiate the reason for
18 the requested additional rating or change.

19 (c) DURATION OF CERTIFICATE.—An aviation main-
20 tenance technician school certificate issued under the in-
21 terim final regulations required under section 2(a) shall
22 be effective from the date of issue until the certificate is
23 surrendered, suspended, or revoked.

24 (d) CERTIFICATE RATINGS.—An aviation mainte-
25 nance technician school certificate issued under the in-

1 interim final regulations required under section 2(a) shall
 2 specify which of the one or more following ratings apply
 3 to the aviation maintenance technician school:

4 (1) Airframe.

5 (2) Powerplant.

6 (3) Airframe and Powerplant.

7 **SEC. 5. OPERATIONS REQUIREMENTS.**

8 (a) FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT, AND MATERIAL RE-
 9 QUIREMENTS.—Each aviation maintenance technician
 10 school shall provide and maintain the facilities, equipment,
 11 and materials that are appropriate to the one or more rat-
 12 ings held by the school and the number of students taught.

13 (b) TRAINING PROVIDED AT ANOTHER LOCATION.—
 14 An aviation maintenance technician school may provide
 15 training at any additional location that meets the require-
 16 ments of the interim final regulations required under sec-
 17 tion 2(a) and is listed in the certificate holder's operations
 18 specifications.

19 (c) CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS.—Each aviation
 20 maintenance technician school shall establish and main-
 21 tain curriculum designed to continually align with me-
 22 chanic testing standards and ensure students are eligible
 23 for a mechanic certificate and associated ratings under
 24 subpart D of part 65 of title 14, Code of Federal Regula-
 25 tions (or any successor regulation).

1 (d) INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS.—Each aviation
2 maintenance technician school shall—

3 (1) provide qualified personnel to teach in a
4 manner that ensures positive educational outcomes
5 are achieved; and

6 (2) ensure instructors hold a mechanic certifi-
7 cate with one or more appropriate ratings (or, with
8 respect to instructors who are not certified mechan-
9 ics, are otherwise specifically qualified to teach their
10 assigned content).

11 **SEC. 6. QUALITY CONTROL SYSTEM.**

12 (a) ACCREDITATION.—Each aviation maintenance
13 technician school shall—

14 (1) be accredited as meeting the definition of an
15 institution of higher education provided for in sec-
16 tion 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
17 U.S.C. 1001); or

18 (2) establish and maintain a quality control sys-
19 tem that meets the requirements specified in sub-
20 section (b) and is approved by the Administrator.

21 (b) FAA-APPROVED SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS.—The
22 Administrator shall approve a quality control system that
23 provides procedures for recordkeeping, assessment, issuing
24 credit for experience, issuing of final course grades, ensur-
25 ing sufficient number of instructors, granting of gradua-

1 tion documentation, and corrective action for addressing
2 deficiencies.

3 **SEC. 7. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS.**

4 (a) **MINIMUM PASSAGE RATE.**—An aviation mainte-
5 nance technician school shall maintain a pass rate of at
6 least 70 percent of students that take the written, oral,
7 or practical (or any combination thereof) Federal Aviation
8 Administration mechanic tests within 60 days of gradua-
9 tion for the most recent 3-year period.

10 (b) **FAA INSPECTION.**—An aviation maintenance
11 technician school shall allow the Administrator such access
12 as the Administrator determines necessary to inspect the
13 one or more locations of the school for purposes of deter-
14 mining the school's compliance with the interim final regu-
15 lations required under section 2(a) and the aviation main-
16 tenance technician school certificate issued for the school.

17 (c) **EARLY TESTING.**—An aviation maintenance tech-
18 nician school may issue authenticated documentation dem-
19 onstrating a student's satisfactory progress, completion of
20 corresponding portions of the curriculum, and prepared-
21 ness to take the aviation mechanic written general knowl-
22 edge test, even if the student has not met the experience
23 requirements of section 65.77 of title 14, Code of Federal
24 Regulations (or any successor regulation). Any such docu-

- 1 mentation shall specify the curriculum the student com-
- 2 pleted and the completion date.

