Proposed Federal Legislation Related to Aircraft Noise in the 117th Congress

Presented To: LAX/Community Noise Roundtable
Presented By: Gene Reindel
Background

- The United States House of Representatives (with support from the bipartisan Congressional Quiet Skies Caucus) has recently introduced (and re-introduced) several bills to the 117th Congress
  - These bills have been referred to the Aviation Subcommittee for consideration
  - None of these bills have been taken up within the committee of submittal or have been voted out of committee

H.R.5105 Responsive Employees Support Productive Educated Congressional Talk (RESPECT)
H.R.5106 Restore Everyone’s Sleep Tonight (REST)
H.R.5107 Serious Noise Reduction Efforts Act (SNORE)
H.R.5108 Southbound HUSSH & NIITE Help Households (SHHH)
H.R.5109 Fairness in Airspace Includes Residents (F-AIR)
H.R.5110 All Participating in Process Reaching Informed Solutions for Everyone (APPRISE)
H.R.5111 Notify Officials to Inform fully & Impel Educated Decisions (NOTIFIED)
H.R.5112 Low-frequency Energetic Acoustics and Vibrations Exasperate (LEAVE)
H.R.976 / S.2506 Air Traffic Noise and Pollution Expert Consensus Act of 2019 (ATNPEC)
H.R.2351 Protecting Airport Communities and Particle Emissions Act (PACPE)
H.R.5874 Decrease Noise Levels Act (DNLA)

Bold text indicates those resolutions supported in writing by the LAX Roundtable membership.
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Notes: Blue text indicates those proposed bills supported by LAX Roundtable in 2019. Shaded rows indicate proposed bills that were either modified or new as proposed in the 117th Congress.
New/Modified Proposed Legislation in the 117th Congress
Two Resolutions Slightly Modified

- Southbound HUSSH & NIITE Help Households (SHHH)
  - Originally H.R. 5108 now H.R. 4930
    Additional text in (c)(1) adding: "Without regard to any FAA version of a NIITE/HUSSH Southbound procedure proposed by the FAA"
  - LAX Roundtable did not include this proposed legislation in the 2019 letters of support to representatives since it was specific to SFO and OAK airport procedures

- Protecting Airport Communities and Particle Emissions Act (PACPE)
  - Originally H.R. 2351 now H.R. 4068
    Section E is different: "(e) Report.—Not later than 180 days after submission of the results of the study by the institution of higher education, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report on the study including the results of the study submitted under subsection (c)(4) by the institution of higher education."
  - LAX Roundtable included this proposed legislation in the 2019 letters of support to representatives
H.R.4161: Noise Mitigation and Replacement Program Act

- To waive the requirement that bars the Secretary of Transportation from funding airport noise mitigation projects that have already received federal assistance. The bill would also establish a Special Rule for Noise Mitigation Projects that would allow for additional funds to be provided under the FAA’s Airport Improvement Program to repair and replace noise mitigation projects if the Secretary of Transportation determines that additional assistance is justified due to:
  - Increased aircraft noise that would have afforded different levels of mitigation.
  - The building or structure falls within the Day Night Level (DNL) 65 standard according to the most recent noise exposure map. Or fell within such standard at the time the initial noise mitigation was carried out.
  - A building inspector determining that such mitigation caused physical damage to the building or other structure. Or the materials used for such mitigation were of low quality and have deteriorated.

- Potential effect at LAX
  - Direct – possible replacement of older mitigation treatment as deemed eligible; LAX needs to complete initial mitigation treatment
H.R.389 Safe and Quiet Skies Act of 2021

- To impose safety requirements on commercial air tour flights, and for other purposes
  https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/389/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22airport%22%2C%22airport%22%2C%22noise%22%5D%7D&r=11&s=3

- This bill sets forth requirements for commercial air tour flights, including:
  - Prohibits tour flights within a half mile of military installations, national cemeteries, national wilderness areas, national parks, and national wildlife refuges
  - Prohibits tour flights from operating at an altitude of less than 1,500 feet
  - Requires tour flights over occupied areas (e.g., residential, commercial, and recreational areas) to be no louder than 55dB
  - Allows states and localities to impose additional requirements that are stricter than the minimum federal requirements

- Potential effect at LAX
  - Indirect – air tour flights may affect some communities represented on the LAX Roundtable
H.R.5373: Valley-Wide Noise Relief Act of 2021

- To allow mandatory nighttime curfews at certain airports
  
  [https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5373/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22airport%22%2C%22airport%22%2C%22noise%22%5D%7D&r=2&s=3](https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/5373/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%22airport%22%2C%22airport%22%2C%22noise%22%5D%7D&r=2&s=3)

- Potential effect at LAX
  - None – LAX is not one of the “covered airports” described in the proposed legislation to potentially implement curfews
H.R.4892: Quiet Communities Act of 2021

• To reestablish the Office of Noise Abatement and Control (ONAC) in the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes
  
https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/4892/text?q=%7B%22search%22%3A%5B%22noise+abatement+and+control%22%2C%22noise%22%2C%22abatement%22%2C%22control%22%5D%7D&r=1&s=5

• Potential effect at LAX
  
  • Indirect
Proposed Legislation in 117th Congress (2021)

H.R.4928  Responsive Employees Support Productive Educated Congressional Talk (RESPECT)*
H.R.4929  Restore Everyone’s Sleep Tonight (REST)*
H.R.4931  Serious Noise Reduction Efforts Act (SNORE)
H.R.4930  Southbound HUSSH & NIITE Help Households (SHHH)
H.R.4925  Fairness in Airspace Includes Residents (F-AIR)*
H.R.4924  All Participating in Process Reaching Informed Solutions for Everyone (APPRISE)*
H.R.4927  Notify Officials to Inform fully & Impel Educated Decisions (NOTIFIED)*
H.R.4926  Low-frequency Energetic Acoustics and Vibrations Exasperate (LEAVE)*
H.R.712   Air Traffic Noise and Pollution Expert Consensus Act (ATNPEC)*
H.R.4068  Protecting Airport Communities and Particle Emissions Act (PACPE)*
H.R.4161  Noise Mitigation and Replacement Program Act
H.R.389   Safe and Quiet Skies Act of 2021
H.R.5373  Valley-Wide Noise Relief Act of 2021
H.R.4892  Quiet Communities Act of 2021

Blue text indicates those resolutions the LAX Roundtable membership may wish to support. Asterisk indicates bills supported by the Roundtable in the 116th Congress.
Roundtable Discussion

On proposed legislation in the 117th Congress