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113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3676

To establish a prohibition on certain cell phone voice communications during passenger flights, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 9, 2013

Mr. SHUSTER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

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A BILL

To establish a prohibition on certain cell phone voice communications during passenger flights, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Prohibiting In-Flight Voice Communications on Mobile Wireless Devices Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN CELL PHONE VOICE COMMUNICATIONS.

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

"§ 41725. Prohibition on certain cell phone voice communications

"(a) PROHIBITION.—The Secretary of Transportation shall issue regulations—

"(1) to prohibit an individual on an aircraft from engaging in voice communications using a mobile communications device during a flight of that aircraft in scheduled passenger interstate or intrastate air transportation; and

"(2) that exempt from the prohibition described in paragraph (1) any—

"(A) member of the flight crew on duty on an aircraft;

"(B) flight attendant on duty on an aircraft; and

"(C) Federal law enforcement officer acting in an official capacity.

"(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following definitions apply:

"(1) FLIGHT.—The term 'flight' means, with respect to an aircraft, the period beginning when the

aircraft takes off and ending when the aircraft lands.

"(2) MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS DEVICE.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'mobile communications device' means any portable wireless telecommunications equipment utilized for the transmission or reception of voice data.

"(B) LIMITATION.—The term 'mobile communications device' does not include a phone installed on an aircraft.".

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chapter 417 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 41724 the following:

"41725. Prohibition on certain cell phone voice communications.".

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