
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO AIR CARRIER FEES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that fees imposed on
2 passengers in recent years by air carriers for checked baggage
3 have had a significant impact on both travelers and related
4 government agencies. With air carriers charging from \$17 to
5 \$125 for each checked bag, financially burdened travelers are
6 now electing to use carry-on luggage instead, which has led to
7 several problems.

8 First, the legislature finds that this compromises the
9 comfort and safety of passengers, particularly elderly and
10 disabled travelers, by forcing them to carry more and heavier
11 carry-on bags around airports and onto flights, and by crowding
12 already tight cabin space. Moreover, the increase in the amount
13 of carry-on bags has placed an additional burden on already busy
14 airport staff, facilities, and security checkpoints. As a
15 result, the legislature finds that on the national level the
16 Transportation Security Administration has been forced to
17 accommodate this increase at an estimated cost of \$260,000,000
18 in tax dollars. Finally, the legislature finds that the



1 increased stress on security personnel, checkpoints, and funds
2 compromises national security by diverting attention and funds
3 from other vital security programs.

4 Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to mandate that
5 Hawaii air carriers allow each passenger to check on one bag up
6 to fifty pounds in weight free of charge.

7 SECTION 2. Section 261E-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
8 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

9 "(a) In the transportation of passengers, every Hawaii air
10 carrier shall:

11 (1) Provide safe and adequate service, equipment, and
12 facilities for the transportation of the passengers;
13 and

14 (2) Establish, observe, and enforce just and reasonable:

15 (A) Rates, fares, and charges; provided that each
16 passenger who has purchased a ticket for
17 transportation on any Hawaii air carrier covered
18 by this chapter shall be permitted to check on
19 one bag that does not exceed fifty pounds in
20 weight without charge;

21 (B) Regulations and practices relating to rates,
22 fares, and charges; and



- 1 (C) Regulations and practices relating to:
- 2 (i) The issuance, form, and substance of
- 3 tickets;
- 4 (ii) The carrying of personal, sample, and excess
- 5 baggage;
- 6 (iii) The facilities for transportation; and
- 7 (iv) All other matters relating to or connected
- 8 with the transportation of passengers as
- 9 determined by the commission."

10 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

11 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on September 1,
12 2012.

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INTRODUCED BY: *Donald*
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Kindalchiyama
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H.B. NO. 1888

Report Title:

Hawaii Air Carrier; Baggage; Fees

Description:

Mandates that any passenger who has purchased a ticket for transportation on any Hawaii air carrier covered by chapter 261E shall be permitted to check on one bag that does not exceed fifty pounds in weight without charge. Effective September 1, 2012.

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

