



For Immediate Release
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BLUMENTHAL INTRODUCES BILL TO PROTECT AIRLINE PASSENGERS AND CREW FROM TOXIC CABIN AIR

[WASHINGTON, DC] – Today, U.S. Senators Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), and Edward J. Markey (D-MA) introduced the Cabin Air Safety Act, legislation to protect airline passengers and crew from the harmful effects of toxic cabin air.

Academic research suggests approximately 20,000 so-called “toxic fume events” have occurred over the last decade – the equivalent of up to five events daily in U.S. airspace. During one of these events, toxic air enters the cabin through the jet engines, becoming contaminated with engine oil, exhaust, fuel fumes, de-icing fluids, and ozone – causing dangerously poisonous aircraft air that can incapacitate passengers and crew.

“This legislation protects airplane passengers and crew aboard planes from the hidden menace of toxic fumes,” said Blumenthal. **“The bill will further prevent horrific toxic fume events by ensuring pilots and flight attendants have the proper training and resources to respond to dangerous air quality, and by directing the FAA to investigate reports of toxic fume events.”**

The Cabin Air Safety Act will make the cabin air on airplanes safer through:

- **Training:** Mandating pilot and flight attendant training regarding toxic fumes on aircraft.
- **Reporting:** Requiring FAA to record and monitor reports of fume events through a standardized form and public database.
- **Investigating:** Ensuring that thorough investigations occur after fume events occur.
- **Monitoring:** Ensuring that aircraft have carbon monoxide sensors that are set to alarm based on national air quality standards.

The bill is supported by advocacy groups including the Association of Flight Attendants, Allied Pilots Association, Association of Professional Flight Attendants, International Union of Teamsters, National Consumers League, Southwest Airlines Pilots’ Association, and International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers.

