

## Air Carrier Access Amendments Act (H.R. 9373/S. 4829)

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### What does it do?

- ★ The Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA) prohibits disability-based discrimination in air travel and requires air carriers to provide accessibility for and accommodations to passengers with disabilities, but travelers with disabilities continue to consistently encounter significant barriers.
- ★ The **Air Carrier Access Amendments Act (ACAAA) (H.R. 9373/S. 4829)** would **protect and expand the rights of air passengers with disabilities** and ultimately improve the safety of their experience.
- ★ The ACAAA would strengthen enforcement of the ACAA by requiring the assessment of civil penalties for specific violations of the law, granting individuals with disabilities a private right of action, and ensuring that patterns of discrimination are referred to the Department of Justice (DOJ).



### Why is it needed?

- ★ Veterans and other passengers with disabilities, particularly wheelchair users, are often forced to endure unsafe and undignified experiences when traveling by air; however, remedies for ACAA violations are limited.
- ★ By restoring a private right of action, **the ACAAA would allow more remedies for passengers who encounter ACAA violations**. It would also allow for injunctive relief to foster policy changes that would benefit all people with disabilities.
- ★ Referral of cases to DOJ would put commercial air travel in the same position as other providers of mass transportation. It would also recognize that the ACAA is not a customer service standard but a civil right.