

SEC. 2. That portion of the table of contents contained in the first section of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 which appears under the center heading "TITLE V—SAFETY REGULATION OF CIVIL AERONAUTICS" is amended at the end thereof the following:

"Sec. 611. Aircraft noise control and abatement."

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET,
Washington, D.C., November 17, 1967.

HON. HARLEY O. STAGGERS,
Chairman, Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,
Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in reply to your requests for the views of the Bureau of the Budget on H.R. 91, 92, 618, 1398, 2819, 3400, 5461, and 10523, bills which concern aircraft noise abatement regulation.

H.R. 3400 and H.R. 10523 are essentially identical to a draft of legislation submitted to the Congress by the Federal Aviation Agency on January 11, 1967. This legislative proposal resulted from a recommendation of a special inter-agency task group on aircraft noise headed by the President's Special Assistant for Science and Technology.

The Bureau of the Budget recommends enactment of H.R. 3400 or H.R. 10523 in preference to the other bills listed above. Enactment of either of these bills would be consistent with the Administration's objectives.

Sincerely yours,

WILFRED H. ROMMEL,
Assistant Director for Legislative Reference.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington, D.C., November 15, 1967.

HON. HARLEY O. STAGGERS,
Chairman, Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce,
House of Representatives, Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This is in reply to your request for the views of this Department with respect to H.R. 91, H.R. 92, H.R. 618, H.R. 1102, H.R. 1110, H.R. 1398, H.R. 2819, H.R. 3400, H.R. 5461, H.R. 10523, and H.R. 11073, bills pertaining to the problem of aircraft noise.

Many of the bills (H.R. 91, H.R. 92, H.R. 618, H.R. 1398, H.R. 2819 and H.R. 10523) contain provisions authorizing the Department to issue rules and regulations designed to alleviate aircraft noise. In fact, some of the provisions are basically the same as the noise abatement legislation submitted to Congress by this Department introduced as H.R. 3400. That bill empowers the Secretary of Transportation to promulgate noise standards and regulations and to apply those regulations in the issuance, modification, or revocation of airman, aircraft, and other certificates authorized by Title VI of the Federal Aviation Act. Coupled with the existing authority found in Section 307 of the Federal Aviation Act authorizing the issuance of air traffic rules governing the flight of aircraft for the protection of persons and property on the ground, the new noise authority contained in H.R. 3400 should be adequate to permit the Department to engage in all the regulatory programs affecting the aeronautical industry which we believe will be needed for noise abatement and sonic boom control in the foreseeable future. We urge the enactment of H.R. 3400 in lieu of the other bills.

Three of the bills (H.R. 2819, H.R. 5461, and H.R. 618) provide, at least in part, for the conduct of noise research by the Department. We do not believe that additional legislation in this area is necessary. For several years, the Federal Aviation Administration has engaged in a considerable amount of noise research under the broad authority found in Sections 307 and 312 of the Federal Aviation Act. In addition, the Department of Transportation Act specifically authorizes the Secretary to undertake research and development relating to noise abatement, with particular attention to aircraft noise. In view of these authorities, we see no need for the additional research authority which these bills would grant.