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AMENDMENT TO MR. OBERSTAR'S AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 2881 OFFERED BY MR. DOOLITTLE OF CALIFORNIA

Page 104, after line 14, insert the following (and conform the table of contents of the amendment accordingly):

1 **SEC. 312. INCREASING SAFETY FOR OPERATORS OF HELI-**
2 **COPTERS PROVIDING EMERGENCY MEDICAL**
3 **SERVICES.**

4 (a) COMPLIANCE REGULATIONS.—Not later than 18
5 months after the date of enactment of this Act, a pilot
6 of a helicopter providing emergency medical services shall
7 comply with the regulations in part 135 of title 14, Code
8 of Federal Regulations, whenever there is a medical crew
9 on board, without regard to whether there are patients on
10 board the helicopter, unless the pilot and helicopter are
11 operating under instrument flight rules.

12 (b) IMPLEMENTATION OF FLIGHT RISK EVALUATION
13 PROGRAM.—Not later than 60 days after the date of en-
14 actment of this Act, the Administrator shall initiate, and
15 complete not later than 18 months thereafter, a rule-
16 making—

1 (1) to establish a standardized checklist of risk
2 evaluation factors based on Notice 8000.301 issued
3 by the Administration in August, 2005; and
4 (2) to require helicopter emergency medical
5 service operators to use the checklist to determine
6 whether a mission should be accepted.
7 (c) COMPREHENSIVE CONSISTENT FLIGHT DIS-
8 PATCH PROCEDURES.—Not later than 60 days after the
9 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall ini-
10 tiate, and complete not later than 18 months thereafter,
11 a collaborative effort with the air medical community—
12 (1) to establish performance based flight dis-
13 patch procedures for pilots of helicopters providing
14 emergency medical services; and
15 (2) to develop a method to measure compliance
16 with those procedures.
17 (d) IMPROVING THE DATA AVAILABLE TO NTSB IN-
18 VESTIGATORS AT CRASH SITES.—
19 (1) STUDY.—Not later than one year after the
20 date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator
21 shall complete a feasibility study of requiring flight
22 data and cockpit voice recorders on new and existing
23 helicopters used for emergency medical service oper-
24 ations. The study shall address, at a minimum,

1 issues related to survivability, weight, and financial
2 considerations of such a requirement.
3 (2) RULEMAKING.—Not later than 2 years after
4 the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator
5 shall complete a rulemaking to require flight data
6 and cockpit voice recorders on board helicopters
7 used for emergency medical service operations.