§ 47501. Definitions

In this subchapter—

(1) “airport” means a public-use airport as defined in section 47102 of this title.

(2) “airport operator” means—

(A) for an airport serving air carriers that have certificates from the Secretary of Transportation, any person holding an airport operating certificate issued under section 44706 of this title; and

(B) for any other airport, the person operating the airport.


Airport Noise Study


“(a) In General.—The Secretary [of Transportation] shall enter into an agreement with the National Academy of Sciences to conduct a study on airport noise in the United States.

“(b) Contents of Study.—In conducting the study, the National Academy of Sciences shall examine—

“(1) the threshold of noise at which health begins to be affected;

“(2) the effectiveness of noise abatement programs at airports located in the United States;

“(3) the impacts of aircraft noise on communities, including schools; and
“(4) the noise assessment practices of the Federal Aviation Administration and whether such practices fairly and accurately reflect the burden of noise on communities.

“(c) Report.—Not later than 18 months after the date of the agreement entered into under subsection (a), the National Academy of Sciences shall transmit to the Secretary a report on the results of the study. Upon receipt of the report, the Secretary shall transmit a copy of the report to the appropriate committees of Congress.

“(d) Authorization of Appropriations.—There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.”

**Nonmilitary Helicopter Noise**

Pub. L. 106–181, title VII, § 747, Apr. 5, 2000, 114 Stat. 179, provided that:

“(a) In General.—The Secretary [of Transportation] shall conduct a study—

“(1) on the effects of nonmilitary helicopter noise on individuals in densely populated areas in the continental United States; and

“(2) to develop recommendations for the reduction of the effects of nonmilitary helicopter noise.

“(b) Focus.—In conducting the study, the Secretary shall focus on air traffic control procedures to address helicopter noise problems and shall take into account the needs of law enforcement.

“(c) Consideration of Views.—In conducting the study, the Secretary shall consider the views of representatives of the helicopter industry and organizations with an interest in reducing nonmilitary helicopter noise.

“(d) Report.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act [Apr. 5, 2000], the Secretary shall transmit to Congress a report on the results of the study conducted under this section.”