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Gun bill signed into law.

Legislation spearheaded by Frontier and the Air Line Employees Association (ALEA) to protect airline employees from loaded guns in passenger luggage was signed into law Feb. 19 by President Carter.

The new law, which makes it a federal crime to ship loaded weapons in airline luggage, calls for penalties of up to five years in jail and fines of up to \$5,000 for offenders.

Until now, the penalty for putting loaded weapons in checked baggage was a civil fine of up to \$1,000.

The legislative drive was prompted by the death of Frontier station agent Bill Kilian on Nov. 24, 1976, when a weapon discharged inside a duffle bag he was moving from one flight to another at Denver's Stapleton International Airport.

The legislation was introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives by Rep. Pat Schroeder (D-Colo.) and in the U.S. Senate by Sen. Gary Hart (D-Colo.), co-sponsored by Sen. William Armstrong (R-Colo.).

"In the past," says Frontier President Glen Ryland, "careless gun shippers could get off with only a slap on the wrist. Now the prospect of going to jail should make them wise up to the safety risks they are creating."

Ceremonies were held March 16 at Frontiers headquarters in Denver to salute the new law. Among those attending were Mr. Kilian's son, Bill Jr., 11, his mother, Mrs. Elizabeth Kilian, his stepdaughters, Mary-Jean Carson and Janeen Marie Carson, his brother-in-law Don Cameron, Hart, Schroeder, Ryland, ALEA Regional Director Jack Casey, and other airline and union officials.

Family members were presented the pen used by President Carter to sign the gun safety law, along with framed copies of the legislation.

"The new law culminates nearly three years of work by Frontier, ALEA and the congressional leaders," Ryland says. "Thanks to the new law, airline employees and passengers alike now have an important new safeguard on the books."