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## **Report on Monarch collapse confirms existing protection is flawed**

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An interim report into the collapse of Monarch Airlines has accepted shortcomings with the existing protection arrangements.

The government commissioned report, published yesterday, **says too many air passengers are flying without adequate protection against an airline going bust, or are paying twice for the same protection.**

It admitted the current system is often confusing and needs updating.

ABTA chief executive Mark Tanzer said: **"It is good that the review has confirmed there is a problem with the existing protection arrangements if an airline goes out of business.**

"ABTA has been highlighting for some time that the lack of any formal protection arrangements for scheduled flights leaves many passengers at risk, and the Government and taxpayer with a potential repatriation cost. This review is an opportunity to set this right.

"We're pleased that the review team is engaging with industry and look forward to continuing to work with them to come up with concrete proposals."

ABTA is putting pressure on the Government to prevent market distortions between competing businesses, in particular not allowing any new rules to fall only on UK airlines and travel organisers in a market where consumers are served by carriers from many other jurisdictions.

"It is important to protect passengers from any future airline collapses, but BALPA urges the Department for Transport to also consider measures to protect staff."