

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 8491

To direct the United States Postal Service to conduct a study on the feasibility of carrying out a program to provide electronic notifications to Postal Service customers regarding weather and mail delivery, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 23, 2026

Ms. SCHOLTEN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

A BILL

To direct the United States Postal Service to conduct a study on the feasibility of carrying out a program to provide electronic notifications to Postal Service customers regarding weather and mail delivery, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Postal Alert and
5 Weather Preparedness Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. FEASIBILITY STUDY ON PROGRAM TO SEND ELEC-**
2 **TRONIC NOTIFICATIONS REGARDING WEATH-**
3 **ER AND MAIL DELIVERY TO POSTAL SERVICE**
4 **CUSTOMERS.**

5 (a) STUDY AND REPORT.—Not later than 1 year
6 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Postmaster
7 General shall—

8 (1) conduct a study to evaluate the feasibility of
9 carrying out a program, using the United States
10 Postal Service’s informed delivery platform, under
11 which the Postal Service may send electronic notifi-
12 cations to Postal Service customers regarding weath-
13 er and mail delivery, including notifications—

14 (A) with respect to a delay in the delivery
15 of mail as a result of inclement weather or nat-
16 ural disasters;

17 (B) that post offices and other Postal
18 Service locations may be closed or operating
19 with limited hours and staffing as a result of
20 inclement weather or natural disasters; and

21 (C) that property owners and renters
22 should clear walkways to their doors and mail-
23 boxes for mail carriers in the event of the accu-
24 mulation of snow, sleet, ice, or debris; and

25 (2) submit a report on such study to the Com-
26 mittee on Oversight and Government Reform of the

1 House of Representatives and the Committee on
2 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the
3 Senate.

4 (b) REQUIREMENTS.—In the study under subsection
5 (a), the Postmaster General shall evaluate the following
6 with respect to carrying out the program:

7 (1) Methods of how the Postal Service would
8 expand the ability of Postal Service customers to be
9 enrolled in the informed delivery platform.

10 (2) How electronic messages will be sent under
11 the program, the criteria for sending messages and
12 appropriate content of messages, and who will re-
13 ceive the message.

14 (c) CONTACT INFORMATION.—For purposes of sub-
15 section (b)(1)(B), the term “contact information” shall
16 only include the name, mailing address, email address, or
17 phone number of any Postal Service Customer.

18 (d) PROGRAM.—On or after the date the report is
19 submitted to Congress under subsection (a)(2), the Postal
20 Service may carry out the program described in such
21 study.

22 (e) APPLICATION.—The Postal Service may carry out
23 this Act notwithstanding section 552a of title 5, United

1 States Code, (commonly known as the “Privacy Act of
2 1974”).

