

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 198

To limit the types of commercial nonpostal services which may be offered
by the United States Postal Service.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 7, 1997

Mr. HUNTER (for himself, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. PACKARD, Mr. COX of California, Mr. RIGGS, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. McCRERY, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. McKEON, Mr. CALVERT, Mr. LIVINGSTON, Mr. COBLE, and Mr. COMBEST) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight

A BILL

To limit the types of commercial nonpostal services which
may be offered by the United States Postal Service.

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 Service Core
5 Business Act of 1997”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

1 (1) the United States Postal Service is a quasi-
2 government corporation and receives certain benefits
3 and privileges pursuant to that status;

4 (2) the United States Postal Service has a stat-
5 utory monopoly on the delivery of letters;

6 (3) economic development should be promoted
7 through small business enhancement; and

8 (4) the United States Postal Service has re-
9 cently entered into direct competition with private
10 companies in the offering of commercial nonpostal
11 services.

12 **SEC. 3. LIMITATION ON ACTIVITIES ALLOWABLE.**

13 (a) POSTAL POLICY.—Section 101 of title 39, United
14 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the follow-
15 ing:

16 “(h)(1) The Postal Service may not make available
17 to the public any commercial nonpostal service except if
18 or to the extent that such service was made available na-
19 tionwide by the Postal Service to the public (whether
20 under the Domestic Mail Manual or otherwise) as of Janu-
21 ary 1, 1994.

22 “(2) For the purposes of this subsection, the term
23 ‘commercial nonpostal service’ includes such services as
24 volume retail photocopying, packaging services (including

1 gift-wrapping services), notary public services, and the
2 sale of office supplies.

3 “(3) Nothing in this subsection shall be considered—

4 “(A) to affect any governmental function or
5 services in support of any governmental function; or

6 “(B) to be applicable to the extent contrary to
7 statute or any treaty or international agreement.”.

8 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by
9 this section shall take effect 4 months after the date of
10 the enactment of this Act.

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