

111TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1686

To provide for the protection and integrity of the United States mail.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 24, 2009

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

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## A BILL

To provide for the protection and integrity of the United States mail.

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 “Mail Network Protec-  
5       tion Act of 2009”.

6       **SEC. 2. MAIL NETWORK PROTECTION.**

7       Section 404 of title 39, United States Code, is  
8       amended—

9               (1) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as  
10       subsections (e) and (f), respectively; and

1           (2) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-  
2       lowing:

3       “(d)(1) The Postal Service may not enter into any  
4       contract described in paragraph (2) without first satis-  
5       fying the requirements of paragraph (3).

6       “(2) A contract described in this paragraph is any  
7       contract which—

8           “(A) provides for mail processing, mail han-  
9       dling, or surface transportation of mail; and

10       “(B) involves work—

11           “(i) that would otherwise be performed, in  
12       whole or in part, by career postal employees  
13       within a recognized bargaining unit; and

14           “(ii) the performance of which would, dur-  
15       ing any 12-month period—

16           “(I) cost the Postal Service  
17       \$5,000,000 or more under the proposed  
18       contract; or

19           “(II) involve at least 50 workyears of  
20       work.

21       “(3)(A) Before entering into a contract described in  
22       paragraph (2), the Postal Service shall first notify the ex-  
23       clusive representative of the bargaining unit described in  
24       paragraph (2)(B)(i) (or each such unit) of its intent and,  
25       if requested, shall meet and bargain with the exclusive rep-

1 representative (or representatives), in accordance with the  
2 provisions of chapter 12 relating to collective bargaining,  
3 with respect to the proposed contract.

4 “(B) If no agreement is reached within 60 days after  
5 collective bargaining commences, either party may invoke  
6 the dispute resolution procedures set forth in subsection  
7 (c) of section 1207, which subsection shall thereupon  
8 apply in accordance with its terms.

9 “(4) Any contract described in paragraph (2) which  
10 is not entered into in accordance with the requirements  
11 of paragraph (3) shall be void ab initio.”.

12 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

13 The amendments made by this Act shall apply with  
14 respect to any contract entered into on or after the date  
15 of the enactment of this Act.

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