

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 3963

To provide for the upgrade of the vehicle fleet of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 29, 2014

Mr. HUFFMAN (for himself and Mr. CONNOLLY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To provide for the upgrade of the vehicle fleet of the United States Postal Service, 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 “Federal Leadership
5 in Energy Efficient Transportation Act of 2014” or the
6 “FLEET Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. PURPOSES.**

2 The purposes of this Act are to provide for the up-
3 grade of the vehicle fleet of the United States Postal Serv-
4 ice, to improve mail delivery services to benefit customers
5 and the environment, to increase savings by reducing
6 maintenance or other costs, and to set benchmarks to
7 maximize fuel economy and reduce emissions for the Post-
8 al fleet with the goal of making the Postal Service a na-
9 tional leader in efficiency and technology innovation.

10 **SEC. 3. AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO ENERGY SAVINGS PER-**
11 **FORMANCE CONTRACTS.**

12 Section 804(4) of the National Energy Conservation
13 Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 8287c(4)) is amended—

14 (1) in subparagraph (A), by striking “or” after
15 the semicolon;

16 (2) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period
17 at the end and inserting “; or”; and

18 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-
19 paragraph:

20 “(c) in the case of a contract in which the
21 United States Postal Service is a party—

22 “(i) the purchase or lease of low emis-
23 sion and fuel efficient vehicles;

24 “(ii) a measure to upgrade a vehicle
25 owned, operated, leased, or otherwise con-
26 trolled by or assigned to the United States

Postal Service to increase average fuel economy and reduce the emissions of carbon dioxide of such vehicle; or

“(iii) the construction of infrastructure, including electric vehicle charging stations, to support vehicles described in clauses (i) and (ii).”.

SEC. 4. UPGRADE OF POSTAL FLEET.

(a) POSTAL FLEET REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) MOTOR VEHICLE STANDARDS.—The Postmaster General shall develop guidelines for contracted vehicles and vehicles purchased or leased for use by the Postal Service, that, at a minimum, provide—

(A) for light-duty vehicles—

(i) that emissions of carbon dioxide comply with applicable standards developed by the Environmental Protection Agency under title II of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7521 et seq.) and may not exceed, on average, 250 grams per mile; and

(ii) to meet applicable average fuel economy standards developed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administra-

tion under chapter 329 of title 49, United States Code, of 34.1 miles per gallon; and

(B) for medium-duty and heavy-duty vehicles, that comply with applicable standards—

(i) for emissions of carbon dioxide developed by the Environmental Protection Agency under title II of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7521 et seq.); and

(ii) for average fuel economy developed by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration under chapter 329 of title 49, United States Code.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—The standards described in paragraph (1) shall apply to contracted vehicles and vehicles purchased or leased for use by the Postal Service after the date that is 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) REDUCTION IN CONSUMPTION OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS.—The Postmaster General shall reduce the total consumption of petroleum products by vehicles in the Postal fleet by a minimum of 2 percent annually through the end of fiscal year 2025, relative to the baseline established for fiscal year 2005.

1 (b) REPLACING VEHICLES WITHIN THE POSTAL
2 FLEET.—The Postmaster General shall conduct a cost-
3 benefit analysis of vehicles in the Postal fleet to determine
4 if the cost to maintain any such vehicle outweighs the ben-
5 efit or savings of replacing the vehicle.

6 (c) ROUTE REQUIREMENTS.—To inform and
7 prioritize purchases, the Postmaster General shall review
8 and identify Postal delivery routes to determine if motor
9 vehicles used on such routes can be replaced with tech-
10 nologies that increase average fuel economy or reduce
11 emissions of carbon dioxide.

12 (d) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—The Postmaster
13 General shall submit a report to Congress—

14 (1) not later than 1 year after the date of en-
15 actment of this Act, that contains a plan to achieve
16 the requirements of subsection (a) and recommenda-
17 tions for vehicle body design specifications for vehi-
18 cles purchased for the Postal fleet that would in-
19 crease average fuel economy and reduce emissions of
20 carbon dioxide of any such vehicle; and

21 (2) annually, that describes—

22 (A) the progress in meeting the annual
23 target described in subsection (a)(3); and

1 (B) any changes to Postal delivery routes
2 or vehicle purchase strategies made pursuant to
3 subsection (c).

4 (e) RESTRICTIONS.—To meet the requirements of
5 this Act, the Postmaster General may not—

6 (1) reduce the frequency of delivery of mail to
7 fewer than 6 days each week;

8 (2) close post offices or postal distribution fa-
9 cilities;

10 (3) take any action that would restrict or di-
11 minish a collective bargaining agreement or elimi-
12 nate or reduce any employee benefits; or

13 (4) enter into a contract with a private com-
14 pany to perform duties that, as of the date of enact-
15 ment of this Act, are performed by bargaining unit
16 employees.

17 **SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.**

18 In this Act the following definitions apply:

19 (1) CONTRACTED VEHICLE.—The term “con-
20 tracted vehicle”—

21 (A) means any motor vehicle used in car-
22 rying out a contract for surface mail delivery
23 pursuant to section 5005(a)(3) of title 39,
24 United States Code; and

1 (B) does not include any motor vehicle
2 used in carrying out a contract for surface mail
3 delivery pursuant to sections 406 and 407 of
4 such title.

5 (2) MOTOR VEHICLE.—The term “motor vehi-
6 cle” means any self-propelled vehicle designed for
7 transporting persons or property on a street or high-
8 way.

9 (3) POSTAL DELIVERY ROUTE.—The term
10 “Postal delivery route” means the transportation
11 route for surface mail delivery.

12 (4) POSTAL FLEET.—The term “Postal fleet”
13 means any vehicle that is owned, operated, leased, or
14 otherwise controlled by or assigned to the Postal
15 Service.

16 (5) POSTAL SERVICE.—The term “Postal Serv-
17 ice” means the United States Postal Service.

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