

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9024

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide for an option under which a person to whom a document is sent may elect to use the United States Postal Service's Signature Confirmation service or Priority Mail Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery service to send secure identity documents, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 17, 2020

Ms. SPEIER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, 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 direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to provide for an option under which a person to whom a document is sent may elect to use the United States Postal Service's Signature Confirmation service or Priority Mail Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery service to send secure identity documents, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Strengthening Depart-
3 ment of Homeland Security Secure Mail Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

5 In this Act—

6 (1) the terms “Signature Confirmation service”
7 and “Priority Mail Signature Confirmation Re-
8 stricted Delivery service” means the services de-
9 scribed in section 503.8.1.1.a and 503.8.1.1.b, re-
10 spectively, of the Domestic Mail Manual (or any suc-
11 cessor services);

12 (2) the term “Immigration Examinations Fee
13 Account” means the account established under sec-
14 tion 286(m) of the Immigration and Nationality Act
15 (8 U.S.C. 1356(m));

16 (3) the term “Postal Service” means the United
17 States Postal Service;

18 (4) the term “Secretary” means the Secretary
19 of Homeland Security; and

20 (5) the term “secure identity document” means
21 an Employment Authorization Document, a Perma-
22 nent Resident Card, a Travel Document (including
23 advance parole document), or any other document so
24 designated by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

1 **SEC. 3. USE OF SIGNATURE CONFIRMATION AND PRIORITY**
2 **MAIL SIGNATURE CONFIRMATION RE-**
3 **STRICTED DELIVERY SERVICES TO DELIVER**
4 **SECURE IDENTITY DOCUMENT.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning not later than 18
6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-
7 retary of Homeland Security shall provide for an option
8 under which a person to whom a document is sent may
9 elect to use the United States Postal Service’s Signature
10 Confirmation service or Priority Mail Signature Confirma-
11 tion Restricted Delivery service (or any successor services)
12 to send a secure identity document.

13 (b) NOTICE OF CHANGES; APPLICATION.—

14 (1) NOTICE OF CHANGES.—The Postal Service
15 shall notify the Secretary of any changes to the Sig-
16 nature Confirmation service or the Priority Mail Sig-
17 nature Confirmation Restricted Delivery service.

18 (2) APPLICATION.—In carrying out subsection
19 (a), the Postal Service shall allow any individual rep-
20 resented by an attorney or accredited representative
21 and who elects to have a secure identity document
22 delivered by a service described in such subsection to
23 elect that such document may be delivered to any
24 employee of such attorney or accredited representa-
25 tive.

26 (c) USE OF PRIVATE CARRIER.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary determines
2 that a private carrier that offers substantially simi-
3 lar services to the Signature Confirmation service or
4 the Priority Mail Signature Confirmation Restricted
5 Delivery service would provide better service and
6 value than the Postal Service provides under sub-
7 section (a), the Secretary may, in accordance with
8 paragraph (2) of this subsection—

9 (A) decline or discontinue use of the Sig-
10 nature Confirmation service or Priority Mail
11 Signature Confirmation Restricted Delivery
12 service under subsection (a); and

13 (B) enter into a contract with the private
14 carrier to provide such substantially similar
15 services.

16 (2) REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary may not
17 exercise the authority under paragraph (1) unless
18 the Secretary determines, and notifies the Postal
19 Service, that the private carrier offers services that
20 are substantially similar to the Signature Confirma-
21 tion service or Priority Mail Signature Confirmation
22 Restricted Delivery service.

1 **SEC. 4. REPORT.**

2 Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment
3 of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a re-
4 port that describes—

5 (1) the implementation of the requirements
6 under section 3; and

7 (2) the number of times during the previous
8 year that a person used a service under subsection
9 (a) or (c)(1)(B) of section 3.

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