

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 287

To amend chapter 4 of title 39, United States Code, to require the Postal Service to use a mobile retail unit to provide retail postal services to an area when the post office for such area is temporarily unable to provide such services, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 9, 2025

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

A BILL

To amend chapter 4 of title 39, United States Code, to require the Postal Service to use a mobile retail unit to provide retail postal services to an area when the post office for such area is temporarily unable to provide such services, 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 “Mobile Post Office Re-
5 lief Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEPLOYMENT OF MOBILE RETAIL UNITS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 4 of title 39, United
3 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
4 lowing new section:

5 **“§ 417. Deployment of mobile retail units**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than three business
7 days after the date on which a postal retail facility be-
8 comes a covered postal retail facility, the Postal Service
9 shall station in the geographic area served by the covered
10 postal retail facility a vehicle or mobile facility of the Post-
11 al Service that shall provide the services described in sub-
12 section (b) to the extent that the covered postal retail facil-
13 ity provided such services immediately before temporarily
14 ceasing to provide retail postal services.

15 “(b) RETAIL POSTAL SERVICES.—The services de-
16 scribed in this subsection are the following services not
17 available from the covered postal retail facility:

18 “(1) Retail postal services, including the sale of
19 boxes and other packaging material sold by the
20 Postal Service.

21 “(2) A means for holders of post office boxes at
22 the covered postal facility to receive mail sent to the
23 post office box of such holder.

24 “(3) Providing, accepting, and processing forms
25 necessary for persons to request a change of mailing

1 address or a temporary halt to the delivery of mail
2 to such person.

3 “(c) DURATION.—For each covered postal retail facil-
4 ity, the Postal Service shall provide the services required
5 under subsection (a) using a vehicle or mobile facility of
6 the Postal Service until the covered postal retail facility
7 ceases to be a covered postal retail facility.

8 “(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

9 “(1) COVERED POSTAL RETAIL FACILITY.—The
10 term ‘covered postal retail facility’ means a postal
11 retail facility that—

12 “(A) is located not less than half a mile
13 away from all other postal retail facilities;

14 “(B) is temporarily not providing retail
15 postal services;

16 “(C) has not provided such services in the
17 immediately preceding 60-day period; and

18 “(D) in the case of a postal retail facility
19 operated by a contractor, the contractor ceased
20 providing such services at such facility prior to
21 the expiration or termination by the Postal
22 Service of the contract or other agreement
23 under which the contractor was providing such
24 services at such facility.

1 “(2) POSTAL RETAIL FACILITY.—The term
2 ‘postal retail facility’ means a facility, other than a
3 mobile facility—

4 “(A) of the Postal Service providing retail
5 postal services: or

6 “(B) operated by a contractor, at which
7 the contractor provides retail postal services
8 under a contract or other agreement with the
9 Postal Service.”.

10 (b) APPLICABILITY.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided by para-
12 graph (2), section 417 of title 39, United States
13 Code, shall apply with respect to each postal retail
14 facility that, as of the date of the enactment of this
15 Act, is a covered postal retail facility in the same
16 manner as if such postal retail facility became a cov-
17 ered postal retail facility immediately after the en-
18 actment of this Act.

19 (2) DEADLINE.—For the purposes of applying
20 section 417 of title 39, United States Code, to a cov-
21 ered postal retail facility under paragraph (1), the
22 Postal Service shall be deemed to comply with sub-
23 section (a) of such section if, not later than 30 days
24 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Post-
25 al Service stations in the geographic area served by

1 the covered postal retail facility a vehicle or mobile
2 facility of the Postal Service providing the services
3 required under such subsection.

4 (3) COVERED POSTAL RETAIL FACILITY; POST-
5 AL RETAIL FACILITY.—In this subsection, the terms
6 “covered postal retail facility” and “postal retail fa-
7 cility” have the meanings given such terms in sec-
8 tion 417(d) of title 39, United States Code.

9 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
10 for chapter 4 of title 39, United States Code, is amended
11 by adding at the end the following new item:

“417. Deployment of mobile retail units.”.

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