

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 6788

To improve communication between the United States Postal Service and local communities relating to the relocation and establishment of Postal Service retail service facilities, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 14, 2023

Mr. FULCHER (for himself and Mr. SIMPSON) introduced the following bill;  
which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability

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## A BILL

To improve communication between the United States Postal Service and local communities relating to the relocation and establishment of Postal Service retail service facilities, 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 “Mandating Advisable  
5 and Informed Locations and Solutions Act” or the  
6 “MAILS Act”.

7 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

8 In this Act:

- 1           (1) POST OFFICE.—The term “post office”—
- 2                   (A) means a facility that—
- 3                           (i) is owned or leased by the Postal
- 4                   Service;
- 5                           (ii) is managed by a Postmaster;
- 6                           (iii) has responsibility for—
- 7                                   (I) customer services;
- 8                                   (II) local delivery; and
- 9                                   (III) receipt and dispatch of all
- 10                   classes of mail; and
- 11                           (iv) may have responsibility for proc-
- 12                   essing and distribution of mail for other
- 13                   such facilities in the surrounding geo-
- 14                   graphic area; and
- 15                   (B) includes a remotely managed post of-
- 16                   fice, a part-time post office, and an administra-
- 17                   tive post office.
- 18           (2) POSTAL SERVICE.—The term “Postal Serv-
- 19           ice” means the United States Postal Service.
- 20           (3) TEMPORARY RELOCATION.—The term
- 21           “temporary relocation” means a temporary reloca-
- 22           tion of retail services from a post office to support
- 23           Postal Service business for a holiday, special event,
- 24           or overflow business, as described in paragraph

1 (a)(2)(i) of section 241.4 of title 39, Code of Federal  
2 Regulations.

3 **SEC. 3. REQUESTS FOR NEW POST OFFICES.**

4 Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment  
5 of this Act, the Postal Service shall establish by regulation  
6 a formal process for a local government official to request  
7 a new post office within the locality.

8 **SEC. 4. COMMUNICATION RELATING TO POST OFFICE RE-**  
9 **LOCATION.**

10 The Postal Service shall amend section 241.4 of title  
11 39, Code of Federal Regulations, to provide the following:

12 (1) **COMMUNITY INPUT.**—The Postal Service  
13 may not implement a temporary relocation, including  
14 for a commemorative event, for a period longer than  
15 2 days without collecting and considering community  
16 input under paragraph (c) of that section.

17 (2) **NOTIFICATION.**—

18 (A) **ELECTED OFFICIALS.**—Not later than  
19 30 days before the date of a temporary reloca-  
20 tion, the Postal Service shall—

21 (i) submit to 1 or more local elected  
22 officials in the area in which the affected  
23 post office is located a written outline of  
24 the proposal; and

1 (ii) offer to discuss the proposal with  
2 the elected official under paragraph (c) of  
3 that section.

4 (B) PUBLIC PRESENTATION.—The Postal  
5 Service shall—

6 (i) not later than 15 days before the  
7 date of a temporary relocation, provide  
8 public notice of the temporary relocation in  
9 the area in which the affected post office  
10 is located; and

11 (ii) not later than 15 days after pro-  
12 viding notice to local elected officials under  
13 subparagraph (A)(i), hold a public presen-  
14 tation under paragraph (c) of that section.

15 (3) PERIODIC UPDATES.—Not later than 60  
16 days after the end of the initial 30-day comment pe-  
17 riod under paragraph (c) of that section, and every  
18 60 days thereafter until the date that is 60 days  
19 after the last day of a temporary relocation, the  
20 Postal Service shall submit to relevant local govern-  
21 ment officials updates on the status of the tem-  
22 porary relocation.

23 **SEC. 5. REPORT.**

24 (a) REPORT REQUIRED.—With respect to any tem-  
25 porary relocation for a period that is longer than 180 days

1 (whether due to the originally projected length of the relo-  
2 cation or due to an extension), not later than 30 days after  
3 the first day of the temporary relocation (or of the exten-  
4 sion that caused the length of the relocation to exceed 180  
5 days, if applicable), the Postal Service shall submit a re-  
6 port relating to the temporary relocation or extension to—

7 (1) the Committee on Homeland Security and  
8 Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

9 (2) the Committee on Oversight and Account-  
10 ability of the House of Representatives; and

11 (3) the members of Congress who represent the  
12 congressional district or State in which the affected  
13 post office is located.

14 (b) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—Each report described  
15 in subsection (a) shall include a discussion of—

16 (1) whether the communication requirements  
17 were met within the required timelines, and if not,  
18 an explanation for the failure to comply with the re-  
19 quirements; and

20 (2) whether the period of the temporary reloca-  
21 tion is being extended, and if so, an explanation for  
22 the extension.

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