

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7199

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to reinstate pre-pandemic in-office work policies at the Department of the Interior in order to receive certain supplemental emergency relief funds, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 24, 2022

Mr. BURGESS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to reinstate pre-pandemic in-office work policies at the Department of the Interior in order to receive certain supplemental emergency relief funds, 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. LIMITATION ON DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR**
4 **FUNDS UNTIL PRE-PANDEMIC WORK POLI-**
5 **CIES REINSTATED.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—None of the unobligated COVID—
7 19 relief funds made available to the Secretary may be
8 used until on or after the date that the Secretary rein-

1 states the telework policies, practices, and levels of
2 telework as in effect at the Department of the Interior
3 on December 31, 2019.

4 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the date
5 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit
6 to Congress a plan for opening the offices of the Depart-
7 ment of the Interior for in-office work in a manner con-
8 sistent with the policies, practices, and levels of telework
9 as in effect on December 31, 2019.

10 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

11 (1) COVID–19 RELIEF FUNDS.—The term
12 “COVID–19 relief funds” means any funds made
13 available to the Secretary in—

14 (A) the Coronavirus Preparedness and Re-
15 sponse Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2020
16 (Public Law 116–123);

17 (B) the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021
18 (Public Law 117–2); or

19 (C) any COVID–19 supplemental emer-
20 gency appropriations measure enacted into law
21 on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

22 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
23 the Secretary of the Interior.

1 (3) TELEWORK.—The term “telework” has the
2 meaning given such term in section 6501 of title 5,
3 United States Code, and includes remote work.

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