

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2249

AN ACT

To amend chapter 10 of title 39, United States Code, to include postmasters and postmasters' organizations in the process for the development and planning of certain personnel policies, schedules, and programs of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

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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 “Postmasters Equity
5 Act of 2003”.

6 **SEC. 2. POSTMASTERS AND POSTMASTERS’ ORGANIZA-**
7 **TIONS.**

8 (a) PERCENTAGE REPRESENTATION REQUIRE-
9 MENT.—The second sentence of section 1004(b) of title
10 39, United States Code, is amended—

11 (1) by inserting “that an organization (other
12 than an organization representing supervisors) rep-
13 resents at least 20 percent of postmasters,” after
14 “majority of supervisors,”; and

15 (2) by striking “supervisors)” and inserting
16 “supervisors or postmasters)”.

17 (b) CONSULTATION AND OTHER RIGHTS.—Section
18 1004 of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

19 (1) by redesignating subsection (h) as sub-
20 section (i); and

21 (2) by inserting after subsection (g) the fol-
22 lowing:

23 “(h)(1) In order to ensure that postmasters and post-
24 masters’ organizations are afforded the same rights under
25 this section as are afforded to supervisors and the super-

1 visors' organization, subsections (c) through (g) shall be
2 applied with respect to postmasters and postmasters'
3 organizations—

4 “(A) by substituting ‘postmasters’ organization’
5 for ‘supervisors’ organization’ each place it appears;
6 and

7 “(B) if 2 or more postmasters’ organizations
8 exist, by treating such organizations as if they con-
9 stituted a single organization, in accordance with
10 such arrangements as such organizations shall mu-
11 tually agree to.

12 “(2) If 2 or more postmasters’ organizations exist,
13 such organizations shall, in the case of any factfinding
14 panel convened at the request of such organizations (in
15 accordance with paragraph (1)(B)), be jointly and sever-
16 ally liable for the cost of such panel, apart from the por-
17 tion to be borne by the Postal Service (as determined
18 under subsection (f)(4)).”.

19 (c) DEFINITIONS.—Subsection (i) of section 1004 of
20 title 39, United States Code (as so redesignated by sub-
21 section (b)(1)) is amended—

22 (1) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” after
23 the semicolon;

24 (2) in paragraph (2), by striking the period and
25 inserting a semicolon; and

1 (3) by adding after paragraph (2) the following:

2 “(3) ‘postmaster’ means an individual who is
3 the manager in charge of the operations of a post
4 office, with or without the assistance of subordinate
5 managers or supervisors;

6 “(4) ‘postmasters’ organization’ means an orga-
7 nization recognized by the Postal Service under sub-
8 section (b) as representing at least 20 percent of
9 postmasters; and

10 “(5) ‘members of the postmasters’ organization’
11 shall be considered to mean employees of the Postal
12 Service who are recognized under an agreement—

13 “(A) between the Postal Service and the
14 postmasters’ organization as represented by the
15 organization; or

16 “(B) in the circumstance described in sub-
17 section (h)(1)(B), between the Postal Service
18 and the postmasters’ organizations (acting in
19 concert) as represented by either or any of the
20 postmasters’ organizations involved.”.

21 (d) THRIFT ADVISORY COUNCIL NOT TO BE AF-
22 FECTED.—For purposes of section 8473(b)(4) of title 5,
23 United States Code—

24 (1) each of the 2 or more organizations referred
25 to in section 1004(h)(1)(B) of title 39, United

1 States Code (as amended by subsection (b)) shall be
2 treated as a separate organization; and

3 (2) any determination of the number of individ-
4 uals represented by each of those respective organi-
5 zations shall be made in a manner consistent with
6 the purposes of this subsection.

7 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

8 The amendments made by this section shall take ef-
9 fect 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Passed the House of Representatives July 21, 2003.

Attest:

Clerk.