

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2158

To amend title 39, United States Code, to establish rules and procedures for the United States Postal Service regarding the use of centralized delivery of the mail with respect to residential housing units, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 9, 2019

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

A BILL

To amend title 39, United States Code, to establish rules and procedures for the United States Postal Service regarding the use of centralized delivery of the mail with respect to residential housing units, 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 “Easy Access to Mail
5 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON CENTRALIZED DELIVERY FOR CER-**
2 **TAIN RESIDENTIAL HOUSING UNITS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter VII of chapter 36 of
4 title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the
5 end the following:

6 **“§ 3692. Limitation on centralized delivery**

7 “(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

8 “(1) the term ‘centralized delivery’ means a pri-
9 mary mode of mail delivery whereby mail receptacles
10 of a number of delivery points are grouped or clus-
11 tered at a single location;

12 “(2) the term ‘primary mode of mail delivery’
13 means the typical method by which the Postal Serv-
14 ice delivers letter mail to the delivery point of a
15 postal patron; and

16 “(3) the term ‘housing development’ means any
17 single-family residential home or townhouse, but
18 does not include any multi-home apartment or con-
19 dominium building.

20 “(b) RETROACTIVE CHANGE TO MODE OF DELIVERY
21 PROHIBITED.—For any housing development with respect
22 to which the primary mode of mail delivery is any such
23 mode except for centralized delivery on the date of the en-
24 actment of this section, the Postal Service may not change
25 such mode of delivery to centralized delivery.

26 “(c) APPROVAL REQUIRED.—

1 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Postal Service may not
2 require centralized delivery with respect to any hous-
3 ing development constructed after the date of the
4 enactment of this section without prior approval
5 from the local legislative body, or, in the absence of
6 a local legislative body, the legislature of the State
7 with jurisdiction over the affected property.

8 “(2) NOTICE AND COMMENT.—If approval for
9 centralized delivery is granted under paragraph (1),
10 at least 60 days before commencing such delivery,
11 the local postmaster shall provide—

12 “(A) written notice to any other units of
13 local government and any planning commissions
14 located within the applicable county; and

15 “(B) a period of 60 days for public com-
16 ment from residents, property owners, and
17 home builders within such county regarding the
18 use of centralized delivery at the applicable
19 housing development.”.

20 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
21 for chapter 36 of title 39, United States Code, is amended
22 by adding after the item relating to section 3691 the fol-
23 lowing:

 “3692. Limitation on centralized delivery.”.

24 (c) POSTAL SERVICE POLICIES AFFECTING VULNER-
25 ABLE COMMUNITIES.—The Postal Regulatory Commis-

1 sion shall ensure that the United States Postal Service
2 does not change any Postal Service policy in effect on the
3 date of the enactment of this Act that would result in a
4 disproportionate negative affect on rural, lower income, el-
5 derly, disabled, or predominately minority communities.

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