

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3426

AN ACT

To amend title 40, United States Code, to limit the construction of new courthouses under certain circumstances, 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,*



1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Courthouse Afford-
3 ability and Space Efficiency Act of 2025” or the “CASE
4 Act”.

5 **SEC. 2. REDUCING COSTS RELATED TO COURTHOUSES.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 33 of title 40, United
7 States Code, as amended by this act, is further amended
8 by adding at the end the following:

9 **“§ 3320. Reducing costs related to courthouses**

10 “(a) LIMITATION ON NEW COURTHOUSES.—The Ad-
11 ministrator of General Services may not commence con-
12 struction of any new courthouse if—

13 “(1) construction has not begun on or before
14 the date of enactment of this section; or

15 “(2) the design and construction of the new
16 courthouse fails to comply, at a minimum, with the
17 courtroom sharing requirements described in sub-
18 section (b).

19 “(b) COURTROOM SHARING REQUIREMENTS DE-
20 FINED.—The term ‘courtroom sharing requirements’
21 means—

22 “(1) in courthouses with 10 or more active dis-
23 trict judges, 2 courtrooms per 3 active district
24 judges, except such courthouses may contain not less
25 than 9 courtrooms for active district judges;

1 “(2) in courthouses with 3 or more bankruptcy
2 judges—

3 “(A) 1 courtroom per 2 bankruptcy judges;

4 “(B) 1 courtroom for emergency matters;

5 and

6 “(C) if there is an odd number of bank-
7 ruptcy judges, the number of courtrooms re-
8 quired pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall be
9 rounded down;

10 “(3) in courthouses with 3 or more senior dis-
11 trict judges, 1 courtroom per 2 senior district
12 judges; and

13 “(4) in courthouses with 3 or more magistrate
14 judges—

15 “(A) 1 courtroom per 2 magistrate judges;

16 “(B) 1 criminal duty courtroom; and

17 “(C) if there is an odd number of mag-
18 istrate judges, the number of courtrooms re-
19 quired pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall be
20 rounded down.

21 “(c) UNITED STATES COURTS DESIGN GUIDE.—Not
22 later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this
23 section, the Design Guide for courthouses shall be updated
24 to incorporate courtroom sharing requirements to the
25 maximum extent practicable.

1 “(d) UTILIZATION.—If a new courthouse will add ca-
2 capacity in the inventory of the General Services Adminis-
3 tration, existing space in the same courthouse complex
4 must be fully utilized or relinquished from the inventory
5 of the General Services Administration.”.

6 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
7 ter 33 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by add-
8 ing at the end the following:

“3320. Reducing costs related to courthouses.”.

Passed the House of Representatives September 15,
2025.

Attest:

Clerk.

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