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(Original Signature of Member)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To require the Postal Service to establish a website providing information on post offices experiencing emergency suspensions, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. PAPPAS introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee
on _____

A BILL

To require the Postal Service to establish a website providing information on post offices experiencing emergency suspensions, 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 “Postal Suspension
5 Transparency Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. POST OFFICE EMERGENCY SUSPENSION WEBSITE.**

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

5 **“§ 3693. Post office emergency suspension website**

6 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Postal Service shall develop
7 and maintain a publicly available website with an inter-
8 active web-tool that provides information about each cov-
9 ered post office, including the information described in
10 subsection (b).

11 “(b) EMERGENCY SUSPENSION INFORMATION.—The
12 information provided on the Website shall include—

13 “(1) a list of each covered post office; and

14 “(2) for each covered post office—

15 “(A) a street address;

16 “(B) the date on which the relevant emer-
17 gency suspension for such covered post office
18 took effect;

19 “(C) the reason for such emergency sus-
20 pension;

21 “(D) alternative services available, includ-
22 ing how to request curbside delivery;

23 “(E) the location of, and hours of oper-
24 ation for, the nearest facility providing retail
25 access to postal services; and

1 “(F) to the extent practicable, the esti-
2 mated date on which operations at such covered
3 post office will resume.

4 “(c) ADDRESS SEARCH FUNCTIONALITY.—The
5 Website shall include functionality enabling a user to
6 search for information about covered post offices by street
7 address, ZIP Code, or post office box.

8 “(d) FORMAT.—The information described in sub-
9 section (a) shall be provided on the Website—

10 “(1) in a manner that—

11 “(A) presents such information on an
12 interactive dashboard;

13 “(B) is searchable and may be sorted and
14 filtered by the elements described in subsection
15 (b)(2); and

16 “(C) to the extent practicable, enables any
17 person or entity to download in bulk—

18 “(i) such information; and

19 “(ii) the results of a search by the ele-
20 ments described in subsection (b)(2);

21 “(2) in an open format that permits any indi-
22 vidual or entity to reuse and analyze such informa-
23 tion; and

24 “(3) in a structured data format, to the extent
25 practicable.

1 “(e) SUSPENSION NOTICE.—Information provided on
2 the Website shall not be considered as providing notice
3 to any person that the operations of a post office have
4 been temporarily suspended pursuant to subchapter 61 of
5 the Postal Service Handbook PO–101, or any successor
6 policy.

7 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 “(1) COVERED POST OFFICE.—The term ‘cov-
9 ered post office’ means a post office at which oper-
10 ations have been temporarily suspended pursuant to
11 subchapter 61 of the Postal Service Handbook PO–
12 101, or any successor policy.

13 “(2) EMERGENCY SUSPENSION.—The term
14 ‘emergency suspension’ means the temporary sus-
15 pension of operations at a post office pursuant to
16 subchapter 61 of the Postal Service Handbook PO–
17 101, or any successor policy.

18 “(3) POST OFFICE.—The term ‘post office’
19 means a Post Office, as such term is defined in sec-
20 tion 241.1 of title 39, Code of Federal Regulations,
21 or any successor regulation, and includes a post of-
22 fice branch or post office station.

23 “(4) WEBSITE.—The term ‘Website’ means the
24 website described in subsection (a).”.

1 (b) IMPLEMENTATION DEADLINE.—Not later than
2 one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the
3 Postal Service shall establish the website required under
4 section 3693(a) of title 39, United States Code, as added
5 by this Act.

6 (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections
7 for chapter 36 of title 39, United States Code, is amended
8 by inserting after the item relating to section 3692 the
9 following new item:

“3693. Post office emergency suspension website.”.