

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7629

To facilitate the implementation of security measures undertaken by the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 12, 2024

Mr. FITZPATRICK (for himself, Mr. LANDSMAN, Mr. RESCENTIALER, Ms. CARAVEO, and Mr. NORCROSS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To facilitate the implementation of security measures undertaken by the United States Postal Service, 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 “Protect Our Letter  
5 Carriers Act of 2024”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of the Congress that—

1           (1) United States Postal Service letter carriers  
2           must be protected from acts of violence; and

3           (2) the Attorney General should vigorously  
4           prosecute any case of assault against a postal em-  
5           ployee.

6 **SEC. 3. FUNDS TO UPGRADE COLLECTION BOXES.**

7           There is authorized to be appropriated  
8           \$1,400,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2025 through  
9           2029 to the United States Postal Service to carry out, as  
10          determined by the United States Postal Service—

11           (1) the installation of high security collection  
12          boxes; and

13           (2) the replacement of older versions of the uni-  
14          versal mailbox key, also known as the arrow key,  
15          with electronic versions.

16 **SEC. 4. COORDINATION OF PROSECUTION OF OFFENSES**  
17                           **AGAINST THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERV-**  
18                           **ICE.**

19          (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 542 of title 28, United  
20          States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
21          lowing:

22           “(c) The Attorney General shall, in consultation with  
23          the United States attorney for the district, appoint in each  
24          judicial district an assistant United States attorney with  
25          principal responsibility in the district to coordinate and

1 supervise the investigation and prosecution of alleged of-  
2 fenses committed—

3 “(1) in violation of chapter 83 of title 18;

4 “(2) in violation of sections 2115, 2116, or  
5 2117 of title 18; or

6 “(3) against a carrier or person entrusted with  
7 the mail and having custody thereof, in violation of  
8 section 111 of title 18.”.

9 (b) DEADLINE FOR COMPLIANCE.—The Attorney  
10 General shall comply with section 542(c) of title 28,  
11 United States Code, not later than 1 year after the date  
12 of the enactment of this Act.

13 **SEC. 5. SENTENCING GUIDELINES WITH RESPECT TO ROB-**  
14 **BERY AGAINST A POSTAL EMPLOYEE.**

15 Not later than May 1 following the first year that  
16 begins after the date of the enactment of this Act, the  
17 United States Sentencing Commission shall amend the  
18 sentencing guidelines and policy statements promulgated  
19 under section 994 of title 28, United States Code, to pro-  
20 vide that the assault or robbery of a postal employee, in-  
21 cluding conduct committed during the immediate flight  
22 after the commission of such an assault or robbery if the  
23 conduct creates a substantial risk of serious bodily injury,

1 shall be treated in the same manner as the assault of a  
2 law enforcement officer.

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