

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 8795

To limit the closure or consolidation of any United States Postal Service processing and distribution center if the United States Postal Service has failed to meet certain conditions, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 21, 2024

Mr. AMODEI introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Accountability

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## A BILL

To limit the closure or consolidation of any United States Postal Service processing and distribution center if the United States Postal Service has failed to meet certain conditions, 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 Mail Act  
5        of 2024”.

6        **SEC. 2. LIMITATION ON CLOSING OR CONSOLIDATING**  
7        **PROCESSING AND DISTRIBUTION CENTERS.**

8        (a) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

1           (1) **POSTAL SERVICE.**—The term “Postal Service” means the United States Postal Service.

3           (2) **PROCESSING AND DISTRIBUTION CENTER.**—  
4           The term “processing and distribution center”  
5           means a facility of the United States Postal Service  
6           that processes, distributes, and dispatches, part or  
7           all of both originating and destinating volumes of  
8           mail for a designated service area.

9           (3) **STATE.**—The term “State” means a State  
10          or the District of Columbia.

11          (b) **LIMITATION.**—The Postal Service may not proceed on any decision to close, consolidate, downgrade, or  
12          take any other similar action with respect to a processing  
13          and distribution center in a State—

15               (1) if—

16                       (A) at any time during the calendar year  
17                       immediately preceding the action, a processing  
18                       and distribution center located within any Postal  
19                       Service area in the State failed to meet the  
20                       targets described in the fiscal year 2023 performance plan of the Postal Service of—

22                               (i) not less than 93 percent on-time  
23                               delivery performance for 2-day single first-class  
24                               mail, as measured by the service

1 standards in effect on the date of enact-  
2 ment of this Act; and

3 (ii) not less than 90.3 percent on-time  
4 delivery performance for 3- to 5-day first-  
5 class mail, as measured by the service  
6 standards in effect on the date of enact-  
7 ment of this Act; or

8 (B) such action would result in there being  
9 no processing and distribution center located—

10 (i) in the State; or

11 (ii) within 125 miles of the processing  
12 and distribution center subject to such ac-  
13 tion; and

14 (2) unless—

15 (A) the Postal Service has submitted a  
16 proposal relating to such action to the Postal  
17 Regulatory Commission using the procedures  
18 described in section 3661(b) of title 39, United  
19 States Code, and provided the Postal Regu-  
20 latory Commission any information and records  
21 necessary to issue an opinion on the proposal,  
22 including any access to Postal Service facilities;

23 (B) the Postal Regulatory Commission has  
24 issued an opinion on the proposal under sub-  
25 paragraph (A) using the procedures described

1 in section 3661(c) of title 39, United States  
2 Code, within 180 business days of submission of  
3 the proposal, that—

4 (i) includes a comprehensive review of  
5 geographical considerations, including  
6 mountain passes, and the impact of those  
7 considerations on the effects of the pro-  
8 posal on local mail delivery within the  
9 State; and

10 (ii) finds that the proposal would not  
11 negatively impact service standards and  
12 performance measures for mail originating  
13 and destinating within the State; and

14 (C) the deadline for appeals described in  
15 subsection (c) has passed and the Postal Regu-  
16 latory Commission has heard all appeals under  
17 that subsection and all such appeals are unsuc-  
18 cessful.

19 (c) AFFECTED CUSTOMER RIGHT TO APPEAL.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Any person regularly served  
21 by a processing and distribution center subject to  
22 closure, consolidation, downgrading, or any other  
23 similar action shall have the right to appeal to the  
24 Postal Regulatory Commission a decision described  
25 in subsection (b).

1           (2) DEADLINE.—Any appeal under paragraph  
2 (1) shall be filed not later than the later of—

3                   (A) 180 days after the date of enactment  
4 of this Act; or

5                   (B) 180 days after the date of a decision  
6 described in subsection (b).

7           (3) NOTICE REQUIRED.—Not later than 7 days  
8 after the date of a decision described in subsection  
9 (b), the Postal Service shall publicly and conspicu-  
10 ously display on the website of the Postal Service  
11 and at the facility impacted by such decision infor-  
12 mation relating to the right to appeal under para-  
13 graph (1) and the process to file such appeal.

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