2nd Rev.
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AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2647, AS REPORTED

OFFERED BY MS. CASTOR OF FLORIDA

At the end of title VI (page 230, after line 22), add the following new section:

SEC. 665. POSTAL BENEFITS PROGRAM FOR SENDING FREE MAIL TO MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES SERVING IN CERTAIN OVERSEAS OPERATIONS AND HOSPITALIZED MEMBERS.

(a) AVAILABILITY OF POSTAL BENEFITS.—The Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the United States Postal Service, shall provide for a program under which postal benefits are provided during fiscal year 2010 to qualified individuals in accordance with this section.

(b) QUALIFIED INDIVIDUAL.—In this section, the term "qualified individual" means a member of the Armed Forces described in subsection (a)(1) of section 3401 of title 39, United States Code, who is entitled to free mailing privileges under such section.

(c) POSTAL BENEFITS DESCRIBED.—

(1) VOUCHERS.—The postal benefits provided under the program shall consist of such coupons or other similar evidence of credit (in this section referred to as a "voucher") to permit a person pos-

1 sessing the voucher to make a qualified mailing to
2 any qualified individual without charge using the
3 Postal Service. The vouchers may be in printed, elec-
4 tronic, or such other format as the Secretary of De-
5 fense, in consultation with the Postal Service, shall
6 determine to be appropriate.

7 (2) QUALIFIED MAILING.—In this section, the
8 term "qualified mailing" means the mailing of a sin-
9 gle mail piece which—

10 (A) is first-class mail (including any
11 sound- or video-recorded communication) not
12 exceeding 13 ounces in weight and having the
13 character of personal correspondence or parcel
14 post not exceeding 15 pounds in weight;

15 (B) is sent from within an area served by
16 a United States post office; and

17 (C) is addressed to any qualified indi-
18 vidual.

19 (3) COORDINATION RULE.—Postal benefits
20 under the program are in addition to, and not in lieu
21 of, any reduced rates of postage or other similar
22 benefits which might otherwise be available by or
23 under law, including any rates of postage resulting
24 from the application of section 3401(b) of title 39,
25 United States Code.

1 (d) NUMBER OF VOUCHERS.—A member of the
2 Armed Forces shall be eligible for one voucher for every
3 month (or part of a month) during fiscal year 2010 in
4 which the member is a qualified individual. Subject to sub-
5 section (f)(2), a voucher earned during fiscal year 2010
6 may be used after the end of such fiscal year.

7 (e) TRANSFER OF VOUCHERS.—A qualified indi-
8 vidual may transfer a voucher to a member of the family
9 of the qualified individual, a nonprofit organization, or any
10 other person selected by the qualified individual for use
11 to send qualified mailings to the qualified individual or
12 other qualified individuals.

13 (f) LIMITATIONS ON USE; DURATION.—A voucher
14 may not be used—

15 (1) for more than one qualified mailing, wheth-
16 er that mailing is a first-class letter or a parcel; or

17 (2) after the expiration date of the voucher, as
18 designated by the Secretary of Defense.

19 (g) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 30 days after the
20 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense
21 (in consultation with the Postal Service) shall prescribe
22 such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the pro-
23 gram, including—

1 (1) procedures by which vouchers will be pro-
2 vided or made available in timely manner to quali-
3 fied individuals; and
4 (2) procedures to ensure that the number of
5 vouchers provided or made available with respect to
6 any qualified individual complies with subsection (d).
7 (h) TRANSFERS OF FUNDS TO POSTAL SERVICE.—
8 (1) BASED ON ESTIMATES.—The Secretary of
9 Defense shall transfer to the Postal Service, out of
10 amounts available to carry out the program and in
11 advance of each calendar quarter during which post-
12 al benefits may be used under the program, an
13 amount equal to the amount of postal benefits that
14 the Secretary estimates will be used during such
15 quarter, reduced or increased (as the case may be)
16 by any amounts by which the Secretary finds that
17 a determination under this subsection for a prior
18 quarter was greater than or less than the amount fi-
19 nally determined for such quarter.
20 (2) BASED ON FINAL DETERMINATION.—A
21 final determination of the amount necessary to cor-
22 rect any previous determination under this section,
23 and any transfer of amounts between the Postal
24 Service and the Department of Defense based on
25 that final determination, shall be made not later

1 than six months after the expiration date of the final
2 vouchers issued under the program.
3 (3) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—All estimates
4 and determinations under this subsection of the
5 amount of postal benefits under the program used in
6 any period shall be made by the Secretary of De-
7 fense in consultation with the Postal Service.
8 (i) FUNDING.—
9 (1) FUNDING SOURCE AND LIMITATION.—In
10 addition to the amounts authorized to be appro-
11 priated in section 301(1) for operation and mainte-
12 nance for Army for fiscal year 2010, $50,000,000 is
13 authorized to be appropriated for postal benefits
14 provided in the this section
15 (2) OFFSETTING REDUCTION.—Funds author-
16 ized to be appropriated in section 301 in fiscal year
17 2010 for operation and maintenance are reduced as
18 follows:
19 (A) For operation and maintenance for the
20 Army, Army Claims is reduced by $10,000,000.
21 (B) For operation and maintenance for the
22 Navy, System-Wide Navy Communications is
23 reduced by $10,000,000.

1 (C) For operation and maintenance for the
2 Air Force, System-Wide Air Force Communica-
3 tions is reduced by $30,000,000.