To require on-time delivery of periodicals to unlock additional rate authority, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. Welch (for himself, Mr. Rounds, Ms. Klobuchar, Mr. Cramer, Mr. Wyden, Mr. Hoeven, Mr. Merkley, Ms. Smith, and Mr. Sanders) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

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A BILL

To require on-time delivery of periodicals to unlock additional rate authority, and for other purposes.

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

2 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

3 This Act may be cited as the “Deliver for Democracy Act”.

4 SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL RATE AUTHORITY FOR PERIODICALS.

5 Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Postal Regulatory Commission shall amend section 3030.222 of title 39, Code of Federal Regu-
lations, to provide that, for any fiscal year ending after
the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission shall
not authorize the United States Postal Service any addi-
tional rate authority with respect to periodicals under that
section for the following fiscal year, unless the Commission
determines that the United States Postal Service
achieved—

(1) a 95 percent on-time delivery performance
for periodicals during the fiscal year of the deter-
mination, as measured by the service standards in
effect on the date of enactment of this Act; or

(2) an increase in the on-time delivery perform-
ance for periodicals during the fiscal year of the de-
termination, as measured by the service standards in
effect on the date of enactment of this Act, of not
less than 2 percentage points, as compared to the
on-time delivery performance percentage in the fiscal
year before, on, or after the date of enactment of
this Act in which the on-time delivery performance
percentage is the highest measured, as measured by
such service standards.

SEC. 3. ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT.

(a) Report Required.—

(1) In general.—Subject to subsections (c)
and (d), the Postmaster General shall submit to the
Postal Regulatory Commission and make publicly available an annual report on the progress of the United States Postal Service in including in the periodical service performance measurements of the Postal Service on-time performance data for in-county and out-of-county newspaper mail that is entered and accepted at each delivery unit for delivery.

(2) Stakeholder input.—In carrying out the report requirement under paragraph (1), the Postmaster General shall solicit feedback from relevant stakeholders.

(b) Implementation of Report Requirement.—If the relevant information is not available for each individually-addressed piece of mail for purposes of a report required under subsection (a), the Postal Regulatory Commission, in consultation with the Postmaster General, shall develop a system for generating service performance data for use in the report by producing digital information for relevant mail bundles.

(c) Termination of Report Requirement.—The Postmaster General shall submit and make publicly available the report described in subsection (a) annually until the date on which the Postal Regulatory Commission determines that the United States Postal Service has incorporated the categories of mail described in subsection (a),
or any other relevant mail categories used in the report in accordance with subsection (d), into the existing applicable service performance measurements.

(d) Proxy Information.—

(1) In General.—If the Postal Regulatory Commission and the Postmaster General jointly determine that identifying newspaper mail within the periodicals mail category is not practicable for purposes of a report under subsection (a), the Postal Regulatory Commission may determine what information with respect to the closest relevant mail category the Postmaster General may use in the report.

(2) Public Report on Determination.—If the Postal Regulatory Commission and the Postmaster General make the determination described in paragraph (1), the Postal Regulatory Commission and the Postmaster General shall make publicly available a report describing the process and rationale for the determination, including a description of—

(A) the potential costs for the United States Postal Service and applicable businesses resulting from the report requirement under subsection (a);
5

(B) the ability of the Postmaster General

to ascertain accurate results for inclusion in the
report under subsection (a); and

(C) any other factor contributing to the
determination.

6 SEC. 4. GAO STUDY AND REPORT.

(a) Study.—The Comptroller General of the United
States shall conduct a study of alternative pricing schemes
and other options for the United States Postal Service
that would improve the financial position of periodicals
and other products that do not cover their costs and evalu-
ate the potential impact of such alternative pricing
schemes and other options.

(b) Report.—Not later than 2 years after the date
of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the
United States shall submit to the Committee on Homeland
Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the
Committee on Oversight and Accountability of the House
of Representatives a report on the study conducted under
subsection (a).