

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 9592
OFFERED BY MR. COMER OF KENTUCKY**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Federal Register Mod-
3 ernization Act of 2024”.

4 **SEC. 2. FEDERAL REGISTER MODERNIZATION.**

5 (a) REFERENCES TO PRINTING.—Chapter 15 of title
6 44, United States Code, is amended—

7 (1) in section 1502—

8 (A) in the heading, by striking “**print-**
9 **ing**” and inserting “**publishing**”; and

10 (B) by striking “printing and distribution”
11 and inserting “publishing”;

12 (2) in section 1507—

13 (A) by striking “the duplicate originals or
14 certified copies of the document have” and in-
15 serting “the document has”; and

16 (B) in paragraph (2), by striking “print-
17 ed” and inserting “published”; and

1 (3) in section 1509, by striking “printing, re-
2 printing, wrapping, binding, and distributing” each
3 place it appears and inserting “publishing”.

4 (b) PUBLISH DEFINED.—Section 1501 of title 44,
5 United States Code, is amended—

6 (1) by striking “; and” at the end of the defini-
7 tion for “person” and inserting a semicolon; and

8 (2) by inserting after the definition for “per-
9 son” the following:

10 “‘publish’ means to circulate for sale or dis-
11 tribution to the public, as determined by the Admin-
12 istrative Committee of the Federal Register; and”.

13 (c) FILING DOCUMENTS WITH OFFICE AMEND-
14 MENT.—Section 1503 of title 44, United States Code, is
15 amended to read as follows:

16 **“§ 1503. Filing documents with Office; notation of**
17 **time; public inspection; transmission for**
18 **publishing**

19 “The original document required or authorized to be
20 published by section 1505 shall be filed with the Office
21 of the Federal Register for publication at times estab-
22 lished by the Administrative Committee of the Federal
23 Register by regulation. The Archivist of the United States
24 shall cause to be noted on the original of each document
25 the day and hour of filing. Upon filing, the document shall

1 be immediately available for public inspection. The origi-
2 nal shall be retained by the National Archives and Records
3 Administration and shall be available for inspection under
4 regulations prescribed by the Archivist, unless such origi-
5 nal is disposed of in accordance with disposal schedules
6 submitted by the Administrative Committee and author-
7 ized by the Archivist pursuant to regulations issued under
8 chapter 33; however, originals of proclamations of the
9 President and Executive orders shall be permanently re-
10 tained by the Administration as part of the National Ar-
11 chives of the United States. The Office shall transmit to
12 the Government Publishing Office, as provided by this
13 chapter, each document required or authorized to be pub-
14 lished by section 1505. Every Federal agency shall cause
15 to be transmitted for filing the original of all such docu-
16 ments issued, prescribed, or promulgated by the agency.”.

17 (d) FEDERAL REGISTER AMENDMENT.—Section
18 1504 of title 44, United States Code, is amended to read
19 as follows:

20 **“§ 1504. ‘Federal Register’; publishing; contents; dis-**
21 **tribution; price; physical copies**

22 “Documents required or authorized to be published
23 by section 1505 shall be published immediately by the
24 Government Publishing Office in a serial publication des-
25 igned the ‘Federal Register’. The Director of the Gov-

1 ernment Publishing Office shall make available the facili-
2 ties of the Government Publishing Office for the prompt
3 publication of the Federal Register in the manner and at
4 the times required by this chapter and the regulations pre-
5 scribed under it. The contents of the daily issues shall con-
6 stitute all documents, required or authorized to be pub-
7 lished, filed with the Office of the Federal Register up to
8 the time of the day immediately preceding the day of pub-
9 lication fixed by regulations under this chapter. There
10 shall be published with each document a copy of the nota-
11 tion, required to be made by section 1503, of the day and
12 hour when, upon filing with the Office, the document was
13 made available for public inspection. Distribution shall be
14 made at a time in the morning of the day of distribution
15 fixed by regulations prescribed under this chapter. The
16 prices to be charged for the Federal Register may be fixed
17 by the Administrative Committee of the Federal Register
18 established by section 1506 without reference to the re-
19 strictions placed upon and fixed for the sale of Govern-
20 ment publications by sections 1705 and 1708. The Gov-
21 ernment Publishing Office shall print two physical copies
22 of each published Federal Register issue. Each copy shall
23 be stored in a separate facility to ensure the preservation
24 of the Federal Register for the purposes of continuity of
25 government.”.

1 (e) DOCUMENTS TO BE PUBLISHED IN FEDERAL
2 REGISTER.—Section 1505 of title 44, United States Code,
3 is amended—

4 (1) in subsection (b)—

5 (A) in the heading, by striking “COM-
6 MENTS” and inserting “NEWS COMMENTARY”;
7 and

8 (B) by striking “comments” and inserting
9 “news commentary”;

10 (2) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
11 section (d);

12 (3) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
13 lowing new subsection:

14 “(c) ALTERNATIVE PUBLICATION.—In a continuity
15 of operations event in which the Government Publishing
16 Office does not fulfill the publication requirements of this
17 chapter, the Office of the Federal Register may establish
18 an alternative method to publish the Federal Register
19 until such time that the Government Publishing Office re-
20 sumes publication.”; and

21 (4) in subsection (d), as so redesignated, in the
22 matter following paragraph (2)—

23 (A) by inserting “telecommunications, the
24 Internet,” after “the press, the radio,”; and

1 (B) by striking “and two duplicate origi-
2 nals or two certified copies” and inserting “doc-
3 ument”.

4 (f) ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE FEDERAL
5 REGISTER AMENDMENT.—Subsection (a) of section 1506
6 of title 44, United States Code, is amended to read as
7 follows:

8 “(a) COMPOSITION; DUTIES.—The Administrative
9 Committee of the Federal Register shall consist of the Ar-
10 chivist of the United States or Acting Archivist, who shall
11 chair the committee, an officer of the Department of Jus-
12 tice designated by the Attorney General, and the Director
13 of the Government Publishing Office or Acting Director
14 of the Government Publishing Office. The Director of the
15 Federal Register shall act as secretary of the committee.
16 The committee shall prescribe, with the approval of the
17 President or their designee, regulations for carrying out
18 this chapter. The regulations shall provide for, among
19 other things, the following:

20 “(1) The documents which shall be authorized
21 under section 1505(b) to be published in the Federal
22 Register.

23 “(2) The manner and form in which the Fed-
24 eral Register shall be published.

1 “(3) The manner and form in which agencies
2 submit documents for publication in the Federal
3 Register and special editions of the Federal Reg-
4 ister.

5 “(4) Subject to subsection (b), the manner of
6 distribution to Members of Congress, officers and
7 employees of the United States, or Federal agency,
8 for official use, and the number which shall be avail-
9 able for distribution to the public.

10 “(5) The prices to be charged for individual
11 copies of, and subscriptions to, the Federal Register
12 and any reprints and bound volumes of it.

13 “(6) The manner and form by which the Fed-
14 eral Register may receive information and comments
15 from the public, if practicable and efficient.

16 “(7) Special editions of the Federal Register.”.

17 (g) CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS AMEND-
18 MENT.—Section 1510 of title 44, United States Code, is
19 amended to read as follows:

20 **“§ 1510. Code of Federal Regulations**

21 “(a) SPECIAL EDITION FOR CODIFICATION OF AGEN-
22 CY DOCUMENTS.—The Administrative Committee of the
23 Federal Register, with the approval of the President or
24 their designee, may require, from time to time as it con-
25 siders necessary, the preparation and publication in a spe-

1 cial edition of the Federal Register a complete codification
2 of the documents of each agency of the Government hav-
3 ing general applicability and legal effect, issued or promul-
4 gated by the agency by publication in the Federal Register
5 or by filing with the Administrative Committee, and which
6 are relied upon by the agency as authority for, or are in-
7 voked or used by it in the discharge of, its activities or
8 functions, and are in effect as to facts arising on or after
9 dates specified by the Administrative Committee.

10 “(b) CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS.—A codifica-
11 tion prepared under subsection (a) of this section shall be
12 published and shall be designated as the ‘Code of Federal
13 Regulations’. The Administrative Committee shall regu-
14 late the manner and forms of publishing this codification.

15 “(c) SUPPLEMENTATION, COLLATION, AND REPUBLI-
16 CATION.—The Administrative Committee shall regulate
17 the supplementation and the collation and republication
18 of the codification with a view to keeping the Code of Fed-
19 eral Regulations as current as practicable. Each unit of
20 codification shall be supplemented and republished at least
21 once each calendar year. The Office of the Federal Reg-
22 ister may create updates of each unit of codification from
23 time to time and make the same available electronically
24 or may provide public access using an electronic edition

1 that allows a user to select a specific date and retrieve
2 the version of the codification in effect as of that date.

3 “(d) PREPARATION AND PUBLICATION BY THE FED-
4 ERAL REGISTER.—The Office of the Federal Register
5 shall prepare and publish the codifications, supplements,
6 collations, indices, and user aids authorized by this sec-
7 tion.

8 “(e) PRIMA FACIE EVIDENCE.—The codified docu-
9 ments of the several agencies published in the Code of
10 Federal Regulations under this section, as amended by
11 documents subsequently filed with the Office and pub-
12 lished in the daily issues of the Federal Register, shall
13 be prima facie evidence of the text of the documents and
14 of the fact that they are in effect on and after the date
15 of publication.

16 “(f) REGULATIONS.—The Administrative Committee,
17 with approval of the President or their designee, shall
18 issue regulations for carrying out this section.

19 “(g) EXCEPTION.—This section does not require
20 codification of the text of Presidential documents pub-
21 lished and periodically compiled in supplements to title 3
22 of the Code of Federal Regulations.”.

23 (h) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—
24 The table of sections for chapter 15 of title 44, United

1 States Code, is amended by striking the items related to
2 sections 1502, 1503, and 1504 and inserting the following:

“1502. Custody and publishing of Federal documents; appointment of Director.

“1503. Filing documents with Office; notation of time; public inspection; transmission for publishing.

“1504. ‘Federal Register’; publishing; contents; distribution; price.”.

