

Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 3426

(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a new text)

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. _____

To amend title 40, United States Code, to limit the construction of new courthouses under certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 15, 2025

Mr. SHREVE (for himself and Ms. NORTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

A BILL

To amend title 40, United States Code, to limit the construction of new courthouses under certain circumstances, 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 “Courthouse Afford-
5 ability and Space Efficiency Act of 2025” or the “CASE
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. REDUCING COSTS RELATED TO COURTHOUSES.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 33 of title 40, United
3 States Code, as amended by this act, is further amended
4 by adding at the end the following:

5 **“§ 3320. Reducing costs related to courthouses**

6 “(a) LIMITATION ON NEW COURTHOUSES.—The Ad-
7 ministrator of General Services may not commence con-
8 struction of any new courthouse if—

9 “(1) construction has not begun on or before
10 the date of enactment of this section; or

11 “(2) the design and construction of the new
12 courthouse fails to comply, at a minimum, with the
13 courtroom sharing requirements described in sub-
14 section (b).

15 “(b) COURTROOM SHARING REQUIREMENTS DE-
16 FINED.—The term ‘courtroom sharing requirements’
17 means—

18 “(1) in courthouses with 10 or more active dis-
19 trict judges, 2 courtrooms per 3 active district
20 judges, except such courthouses may contain not less
21 than 9 courtrooms for active district judges;

22 “(2) in courthouses with 3 or more bankruptcy
23 judges—

24 “(A) 1 courtroom per 2 bankruptcy judges;

25 “(B) 1 courtroom for emergency matters;

26 and

1 “(C) if there is an odd number of bank-
2 ruptcy judges, the number of courtrooms re-
3 quired pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall be
4 rounded down;

5 “(3) in courthouses with 3 or more senior dis-
6 trict judges, 1 courtroom per 2 senior district
7 judges; and

8 “(4) in courthouses with 3 or more magistrate
9 judges—

10 “(A) 1 courtroom per 2 magistrate judges;

11 “(B) 1 criminal duty courtroom; and

12 “(C) if there is an odd number of mag-
13 istrate judges, the number of courtrooms re-
14 quired pursuant to subparagraph (A) shall be
15 rounded down.

16 “(c) UNITED STATES COURTS DESIGN GUIDE.—Not
17 later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this
18 section, the Design Guide for courthouses shall be updated
19 to incorporate courtroom sharing requirements to the
20 maximum extent practicable.

21 “(d) UTILIZATION.—If a new courthouse will add ca-
22 pacity in the inventory of the General Services Adminis-
23 tration, existing space in the same courthouse complex
24 must be fully utilized or relinquished from the inventory
25 of the General Services Administration.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The analysis for chap-
2 ter 33 of title 40, United States Code, is amended by add-
3 ing at the end the following:

“3320. Reducing costs related to courthouses.”.