



SENATE MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Bermuda Post Office Enhanced Services

Senator O.K. Darrell
Junior Minister for the Cabinet Office

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Madame President, I would like to speak briefly to inform this Chamber of some Bermuda Post Office (BPO) initiatives that are being implemented. As has been mentioned, the BPO continues to advance products and services that will benefit local businesses and residents.

Madame President, the BPO continues to innovate through this current Covid-19 pandemic to not only serve the community by delivering mail, but to also provide business solutions for the betterment of Bermuda in general.

Madame President, one such service is called ‘Drop-and-Deliver’ which allows local businesses the opportunity to use the BPO to deliver local products to their clients based within Bermuda.

Madame President this value-added service will allow local e-commerce as well as the traditional brick-and-mortar vendors that do not have a delivery network, the option of dropping-off mail items and packages to the Bermuda Post Office for delivery locally within 24 hours. As an added bonus, they can arrange for the Post Office to also pick-up from their place of business for free. Local post rates will apply, with a \$5 fee per delivery item.

Madame President, local entrepreneurs, e-tailers and businesses will be provided with an affordable local last-mile delivery and logistic service.

Madame President, as an added feature to expand markets for our small business owners that want to ship goods and merchandise overseas, the BPO will also pick-up mail items for free and ship internationally, upon arrangement. Customers will find that the BPO postage rates for this service are highly competitive and once we go “live” can be found on www.bermudapost.bm. BPO rates are consistently at least fifty percent (50%) of what couriers normally charge for this service.

Madame President, for businesses and residents, another service that the BPO is offering in the near future is the introduction of a ‘one-size, one-price’ mail box for outgoing international parcel mail. This allows customers to benefit from our overseas delivery service by having a flat rate for anything that can fit into a particular sized box, irrespective of weight or contents. The premise is: if it fits, it ships.

Madame President, the concept is that customers can put whatever fits into a mail box, pay a flat postage rate and the Post Office will transport that item. Customers can track-and-trace their item from Bermuda to the intended delivery address anywhere in the world.

Madame President, another service we are introducing is one wherein business customers in Hamilton who want their P.O. Box mail to be delivered to them, can have this done for them as well. There will be a small fee for this service if customers wish to utilize it.

Madame President, I make mention of the Bermuda Post Office as they intend to tell their story. Their story includes the fact that 98% of all Letter mail arriving into Bermuda is delivered within four (4) working days. All parcels and packet mail received is cleared through Customs within three (3) hours and all mail items are delivered to a sub-office within two (2) working days for customer pick-up.

Madame President, in the future, BPO customers will receive an electronic advice of arrival of their Parcel mail items. Customers will be able to pay Customs duty online and their mail item will be delivered to them, if they so wish.

Madame President, as announced by Minister Furbert recently in the House, the Bermuda Post Office is also expanding its services to include enhanced shipping options for online shopping. This new service is called MyBermudaPost and will be powered by MyUS. The Post Office is now in the midst of a “soft launch” to test the service and it will be fully implemented for us in mid-October.

Madame President, the Post Office has for years been offering a parcel service for overseas goods and this new partnership will provide an enhanced experience and improved level of service for customers.

Madame President, these are but a few of the innovative and progressive initiatives we are implementing at the Bermuda Post Office and we are certain that the general public and local businesses will be delighted with these new services.

Thank you, **Madame President**.