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Contact: Sally Davidow
(202) 842-4250

**Statement by William Burrus, President of the American Postal Workers Union,
On the Introduction of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (S. 2468)**

“Americans are counting on Congress to pass meaningful postal reform that will strengthen the Postal Service and ensure that high-quality mail service is preserved. That means postal reform must deliver for *all* Americans.

“As senators consider this bill, we urge them to protect postal services by ending excessive worksharing discounts for corporate mailers. Worksharing discounts should not subsidize advertising mailers at the expense of American consumers.

“True postal reform also should not be accomplished on the backs of postal workers. If our nation is ever again traumatized by an anthrax attack, the men and women who make the Postal Service work must receive the same protection as other public servants. It is totally unacceptable to change the law to deny postal employees equitable compensation when they are injured on the job.

“If adopted, new rules in the Senate bill would apply only to postal workers – not to other federal workers, and not to the members of Congress or their staffs. The Senate proposal to amend Title 5 of the U.S. Code by striking the words ‘an employee’ and inserting ‘an employee other than a Postal Service employee,’ would engrain an unjustified legal disparity between postal workers and all other federal employees.

“After years of hard work, Congress now has the chance to achieve real postal reform. It’s time to end corporate giveaways and ensure equal protection under the law so that we can deliver efficient and high-quality mail services to all Americans.”

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The APWU is the nation’s largest postal union, representing more than 330,000 postal workers in the Clerk, Maintenance, and Motor Vehicle Crafts.