

HANDS OFF OUR EARNED POSTAL PENSIONS!

Talking Points

Congress is trying to finance \$4.5 trillion in tax breaks for the wealthiest Americans on the backs of the working class. On May 22, the House passed H.R. 1, the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act* (yes, that's the official bill name). Here are some key details of this not-so-beautiful bill:

1. H.R. 1 pays for these massive tax breaks through cuts to vital government programs, including the elimination of the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) annuity supplement for many postal and federal employees.
2. If passed in the Senate and signed into law, H.R. 1 would eliminate the FERS annuity supplement for many postal and federal employees, which "...shall begin to apply on January 1, 2028..."
3. The FERS annuity supplement is an earned "bridge" payment that helps make it financially possible for postal and federal employees to retire before Social Security kicks in at age 62. Without this monthly payment, thousands of postal workers will be forced to stay on the job for up to five years longer or suffer a steep income gap.
4. It is important to note that stopping the FERS annuity supplement for postal workers would not save the federal government any money. Remember that USPS is fully funded by the sale of its products and services, NOT through taxpayer dollars.

Changing the terms of retirement is a slap in the face to postal and federal employees who worked their jobs with the promise of an equitable retirement. Many postal and federal workers opted for better retirement benefits in the public sector over increased pay in the private sector. Enacting these cuts will have negative effects on hiring and employee retention for the Postal Service and other federal agencies. Make no mistake, this is simply unfair and unjust!

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