



American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

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July 31, 2013

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Dear State and Local Presidents:

This is a follow-up to my July 11, 2013, letter requesting that you meet with your legislators over the August congressional recess to urge them to co-sponsor the Postal Service Protection Act (H.R. 630 in the House / S. 316 in the Senate), the Protect Overnight Delivery Act (H.R. 2459), and the United States Postal Service Stabilization Act (H.R. 961).

I am writing to update you on developments since July 11 and to provide you with additional material for your meetings with your senators and congressperson(s).

On July 24, the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform approved Rep. Darrell Issa's (R-CA) "Postal Reform Act of 2013" (H.R. 2748) by a vote of 22 to 17. The vote was along party lines, with all Republicans voting in favor of the measure and all Democrats voting against it. Every attempt by Democrats on the committee to amend the bill were defeated along party lines.

If it is enacted, this bill will lead to the demise of the Postal Service. It would punish postal workers and deprive the American people of vital services. It would subvert the Postal Service's mission by privatizing major portions of USPS operations. H.R. 2748 would:

Punish Workers

- Prohibit unions and management from negotiating no-layoff protection;
- Increase health insurance costs for employees;
- Limit our collective bargaining rights;

Reduce Service

- Impose a two- to three-day delivery standard for first-class mail;
- Close post offices, stations and branches, and consolidate plants;
- Reduce door delivery and end Saturday letter delivery.

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Promote Privatization

- Establish "competition advocates" to promote contracting out;
- Prohibit customers from appealing decisions to close post offices, stations or branches if a "contract postal unit" is opened within two miles;
- Establish a "temporary governance authority" whose broad powers would end only after the USPS achieves two consecutive years of profitability.

H.R. 2748 would weaken the USPS and jeopardize postal jobs and retirement benefits for current and future retirees. And it wouldn't do nearly enough to fix the financial crisis Congress created. It must be defeated.

Enclosed are updated Talking Points and an updated Fact Sheet. The Talking Points are for your use. The Fact Sheet is intended to be left with the senator or representative (or their staff).

Also enclosed are "Tips for Meeting with Members of Congress and Other Elected Officials" and an "August 2013 Legislative Contact Report Form." Please complete the contact report form after each visit you have with a senator or representative (or their staff) and return it to the APWU Legislative & Political Department as soon as possible.

If you require any assistance or have any questions about the above, contact APWU Legislative Director Gary Kloepper at 202-842-4211. You can also contact the Vice President's office or the Communications Department at 202-842-4250.

In Solidarity,



Cliff Guffey
President

cc: Resident Officers
Regional Coordinators
NBAs

Enclosures

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