

#### NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

# **Cliff Guffey**

President

# Greg Bell

Executive Vice President

## Elizabeth Powell

Secretary-Treasurer

### Mike Morris

Industrial Relations Director

## Rob Strunk

Clerk Division Director

## Steven G. Raymer

Maintenance Division Director

#### Robert C. Pritchard

Motor Vehicle Division Director

#### Bill Manley

Support Services Division Director

# Sharyn M. Stone

Central Region Coordinator

# Mike Gallagher

Eastern Region Coordinator

# John H. Dirzius

Northeast Region Coordinator

## Princella Vogel

Southern Region Coordinator

## Omar M. Gonzalez

Western Region Coordinator

1300 L Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 (202) 842-4200 www.apwu.org

# Dear APWU Member:

This is an urgent request. Your retirement benefits are on the chopping block and we need your help to stop cuts to your monthly annuity.

The threat is from a proposal to use a new method to calculate cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) for postal and federal retirees and Social Security recipients. The new method – **known as the "chained CPI"** – would result in much smaller cost-of-living increases than the current formula establishes.

Alarmingly, the proposal is supported by many Republicans and some Democrats, and President Obama has included it in his proposed budget.

Join us on Tuesday, July 2, at protests across the country. We will work to create a human chain in front of congressional offices, federal buildings, and other strategic locations.

# Our message is clear: Break the chained CPI! No cuts to cost-of-living adjustments!

Many members have heard about the threat to Social Security, and have asked how postal retirees would be affected. Simply put, postal retirees' annual cost-of-living increases are based on the same index used for Social Security. If the chained CPI is adopted, cost-of-living increases would be much lower for Social Security recipients AND for postal and federal retirees. The losses would compound over time.

For more information, please read the enclosed fact sheet provided by the Alliance for Retired Americans. The statements about cuts in future Social Security benefits also apply to CSRS and FERS.

In addition, please review the flyer for information about the rally closest to you and make every effort to attend. Additional locations may be added, so check www.apwu.org for updates. Please sign and return the petition by July 2, and please wear the stickers on July 2 and give them to friends to help spread the message.

Thank you.

Jady Beard

Retirees Department Director

In Union Solidarity,

Cliff Guffey

President