



Urgent Action Alert

Stop Senate Bill S.1507!

Vote Delayed on Bill To Undermine Pay and Benefits

Postal Workers Urged to Contact U.S. Senators in Coming Weeks

(Aug. 10, 2009) A Senate vote on a bill that would be devastating for postal workers has been postponed until after lawmakers return from their summer recess, giving union members several more weeks to urge legislators to oppose the legislation.

The Postal Service Retiree Health Benefits Funding Reform Act of 2009 (S. 1507), was intended to provide short-term financial relief to the financially-strapped Postal Service, but an amendment to the bill has made it completely unacceptable to the APWU. The amendment would require arbitrators ruling on postal contracts to take into account the “financial health of the Postal Service.”

“If the bill passes as written, it will destroy collective bargaining for postal workers,” said APWU President William Burrus.

“Arbitrators routinely consider the financial situation of the USPS, but this provision would put ‘a thumb on the scale’ for management during deliberations.

“I call on every APWU member who has not yet done so to write, call, or e-mail their senators to urge them to vote no on S. 1507.”

“If this bill passes, we can anticipate that in the next round of negotiations, many of the things our members take for granted — such as cost-of-living increases, raises, and protection against layoffs — will be at risk.”

— APWU President William Burrus

To Send a Message

Write to your senators at U.S. Senate, Washington DC 20510. To send an e-mail message, visit www.apwu.org and click on “Send a Message to Your U.S. Senator.” A sample letter is provided. Just fill in your name, address, and phone number, and click “Send.”

To Call

To contact your senators by phone, call the U.S. Capitol switchboard at 202-224-3121 or 866-338-1015 and ask for your lawmakers’ office. Ask them to “Vote No on S. 1507.”