

July 23, 2015

## Dear Representative:

The United States Postal Service (USPS) is a wonderful national treasure, enshrined in the Constitution and supported by the American people. Without any taxpayer funding, the USPS serves 150 million households and businesses each day, providing affordable, universal mail service to all – including rich and poor, rural and urban, without regard to age, nationality, race or gender.

The people of this country expect and deserve great public postal services. Regrettably, USPS management has instead adopted a plan to diminish service by delaying America's mail and seeking the end of Saturday mail delivery. Recognizing the dangers posed by such counterproductive cuts, our broad coalition of national organizations have joined under one banner in support of this great American institution – *A Grand Alliance to Save Our Public Postal Service*. We write to you in support of two important and bipartisan resolutions to protect essential postal operations – House Resolution 54 and House Resolution 12.

This January, the USPS drastically reduced their "service standards," delaying mail nationwide and virtually eliminating overnight delivery of first class mail and periodicals. As service standards worsen and mail processing facilities shutter, rural Americans and businesses in particular are feeling the worst of the mail delays. In response, Reps. David McKinley (R-WV) and Paul Tonko (D-NY) are leading a bipartisan coalition in defense of prompt, reliable mail. Their measure, H.Res.54, expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that the USPS "should take all appropriate measures to restore service standards in effect as of July 1, 2012." We encourage you to take a stand against delayed mail and join with 197 of your colleagues in co-sponsoring H.Res.54.

To co-sponsor H.Res.54, please contact Octavian Jordan (<u>octavian.jordan@mail.house.gov</u>) in Rep. McKinley's office or Emily Duhovny (<u>emily.duhovny@mail.house.gov</u>) in Rep. Tonko's office.

Maintaining six-day mail delivery meets the demands of American households and businesses. As such, Reps. Sam Graves (R-MO) and Gerry Connolly (D-VA) are leading the charge to preserve mail delivery six-days a week. Affirming a congressional requirement on the books for more than three decades, H.Res.12 expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that the USPS "should take all appropriate measures to ensure the continuation of its six-day mail delivery service." We urge you to join 209 of your fellow representatives on H.Res.12 in opposition of the USPS's attempts to eliminate Saturday service.

To co-sponsor H.Res.12, please contact Wes Shaw (<u>wesley.shaw@mail.house.gov</u>) in Rep. Graves's office or Ben Rhodeside (<u>benjamin.rhodeside@mail.house.gov</u>) in Rep. Connolly's office.

While independent reviews suggest little to no savings, delaying the mail and eliminating delivery days will only serve to drive customers away. Taking the service out of the Postal Service will result in lower revenue and more postal red ink, threatening the future of this crucial public good. Americans from all walks of life rely on timely and efficient delivery of the mail and this must be a priority for the USPS. We cannot afford to allow America's Postal Service to be torn apart.

## Sincerely,

## A Grand Alliance to Save Our Public Postal Service

9to5 Labor Campaign for Single Payer

AFSCME National Association of Letter Carriers

Amalgamated Transit Union National Active and Retired Federal Employees

American Federation of Government Employees Association

American Federation of School Administrators NARFE-Sierra County Chapter #1341

American Postal Workers Union National Alliance of Postal & Federal Employees

Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance, AFL-CIO National Association of Postal Supervisors

Big Apple Coffee Party

National Coalition on Black Civic Participation

Black Women's Roundtable

National Consumers League

National Council of Churches

Campaign for America's Future

Catholics in Alliance for the Common Good

National Organization of Women

Center for Community Change Action National People's Action

Center for Effective Government National Writers Union – Tucson Chapter

Center for Rural Affairs New Hampshire Alliance for Retired Americans

Center for Study of Responsive Law

New Progressive Alliance

Citizens for an Engaged Electorate Northwest Oregon Labor Council

Coalition of Black Trade Unionists

People Demanding Action

People for the American Way

Coalition of Labor Union Women

People for the American Way

Popular Resistance

Communities and Postal Workers United Pride at Work

Consumer Action Public Citizen

**Communications Workers of America** 

Farm Aid South Carolina Progressive Network

Greenpeace USA South Dakota Farmers Union

Hightower Lowdown United Students Against Sweatshops

In the Public Interest USAction

International Association of Fire Fighters

Vote Vets Action Fund

Jewish Labor Committee Working America, Community Affiliate of the

AFL-CIO

Jobs With Justice