



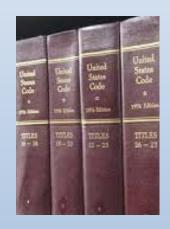
Congressional Authority Over Postal Operations

Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution empowers Congress "To establish Post Offices and Post Roads"

39 United States Code §101

"The United States Postal Service shall be operated as a <u>basic and</u> <u>fundamental service provided to the people by the Government of</u> <u>the United States</u>, authorized by the Constitution, created by Act of Congress, and supported by the people."

"The Postal Service shall have as its basic function the obligation to provide postal services to bind the Nation together through the personal, educational, literary, and business correspondence of the people. It shall provide prompt, reliable, and efficient services to patrons in all areas and shall render postal services to all communities."



39 United States Code §201



- The Postal Service is as "an <u>independent</u> establishment of the executive branch"
- Such an establishment, with its legal governance and regulatory structure, cannot be abducted by another federal agency

39 United States Code §202



- The USPS' authority rests with its 11-member presidentially nominated Senate conformed Board of Governors
- The Postmaster General and Deputy Postmaster General serve at the pleasure of the Board of Governors
- Each Postal Board of Governor serves a 7-year term and "may be removed only for cause."



By the Numbers

\$79.5 Billion in Revenue

63,000 Veterans – Largest Civilian Employer of American Military Veterans

162.5 million – Amount of First-Class Mail USPS Delivers Daily

\$1.7 trillion/7.6% of GDP — Postal Industry is an Economic Engine for the Nation

Economic Impact of the Postal Service

Postal jobs contribute to the economic vitality of our Congressional district and our state







Protect Health and Retirement Benefits

- \$50 billion in cuts assumed in H.Con.Res 14, the House-passed Budget Resolution
- Among cut options suggested by House Ways and Means Committee
 - Increase employee withholding for FERS annuity
 - Recalculate FERS retirement to be based on high-5, rather than the current high-3 salaried years
 - Replace the 72% of the weighted average premium for calculating employee share of health premium to a voucher plan



Postal Supervisors, Managers & Postmasters Need Fairness Support H.R. 1560

- Avoids lengthy and costly litigation, and promotes fairness
 - Sensible schedule to resolve pay and benefits issues
 - Expert FMCS recommendations would be binding
- 2019: FMCS Fact-Finding Panel
 - Unanimously concluded USPS violated law
 - Made recommendations. <u>USPS ignored recommendations</u>.
- 2022: US Court of Appeals for DC Circuit
 - Unanimously ruled USPS violated law. Remanded to District Court to determine damages.



Postal Managers Due Process! Support H.R. 1559

- Extends MSPB equity to all EAS level postal employees
- More than 4,000 postal managers are denied the right to appeal adverse decision to MSPB
 - Most work in USPS HQ positions
- Postal managers must rely on unfair internal USPS review system

Protect Postal Personnel, Assets and Mail: Support H.R. 2095

- Restore USPS Police authority to protect personnel, property and mail
- In 2020, USPS restricted police to USPS facilities
 - Letter carrier robberies increased 863%
 - Mail theft increased 146%
- Postal Police Visibility Deters Crime
 - In LA by 60%
 - In DC by 66%







Retirement COLA Equality

- Social Security and Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) annuities are adjusted annually based by the consumer price index (CPI-W)
- Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) annuitants receive a <u>reduced</u> COLA if CPI is greater than 2%
 - If the CPI is 2-3%, the FERS COLA is frozen at 2%
 - If the CPI is >3%, the FERS COLA is CPI minus 1%
- HR 491 and S 624 would treat the FERS annuity the same as SS and CSRS



USPS Board of Governors

- Nominated by President and confirmed by Senate
- 3 Current Board vacancies
- Nominees must be qualified
- Nominees must be committed to universal service, accessibility, and quality performance

Key Postal Bills to Cosponsor

- H.Res. 70 Declares support for an Independent,
 Accessible & Affordable Governmental Postal Service
 - Sponsored by Rep. Stephen Lynch
- H.R. 1560 Postal Supervisors and Managers Fairness Act
 - Sponsored by Reps. Gerry Connolly and Mike Bost
- H.R. 1559 Postal Employee Appeal Rights Amendments Act
 - Sponsored by Reps. Gerry Connolly and Andrew Garbarino
- H.R. 2095 Postal Police Reform Act
 - Sponsored by Rep. Andrew Garbarino
- H.R. 491/S. 624 Equal COLA Act
 - Sponsored by Rep. Gerry Connolly and Sen. Alex Padilla

An Invitation

