

**Legislative and Political Committee
Recommendation No. 03**

**Based On
Resolution**

Proposed By: National Executive Board

In Opposition To “Do Not Mail” Legislation

WHEREAS, legislation that would create “Do Not Mail” registries, similar to the “Do Not Call” lists for unwanted telephone solicitations, has been introduced in several state legislatures, and such legislation – whether at the state or federal level – would prevent mailers from sending direct mail to those who sign up on a “do not mail” list; and

WHEREAS, contrary to unwanted telephone solicitations, direct mail to homes and businesses is not an invasion of personal time or space, and can be reviewed and/or recycled whenever the recipient chooses; and

WHEREAS, such a registry, often introduced by well-meaning legislators, poses a serious threat to the finances of the U.S. Postal Service, and the processing and delivery of mail; and

WHEREAS, advertising or “standard” mail has grown significantly in recent years, as retailers and political campaigns have discovered how effective it is as a form of communication, such that standard mail now accounts for more than 50% of mail delivered by the Postal Service, which no longer can rely on first-class mail as its principal product; and

WHEREAS, this is an issue that affects our jobs, wages, and benefits because it affects volume and revenue; and

WHEREAS, the Postal Service needs to maintain its universal and reliable service, and its affordable means of communication, for all American households, political campaigns, and businesses; and

WHEREAS, without the revenue generated by advertising mail, the harmful results could include eliminating six-day delivery, closing local post offices, closing or consolidating additional mail processing facilities, reducing the hours at many postal facilities, and vastly increasing rates for personal correspondence and package delivery; and

WHEREAS, taken together, these negative results could mean a virtual death spiral for the Postal Service (on which all Americans rely and depend);

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the NPMHU strongly opposes any legislation that would create or support “do not mail” lists.