



LEGISLATIVE AND POLITICAL COMMITTEE

Recommendation No. 1

BASED ON RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY:

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD | RONALD WILLIAMS, JR., LOCAL 303

In Support of a Union Shop

WHEREAS, the National Postal Mail Handlers Union (NPMHU) fights for better wages, respect, dignity, health care, safety, and retirement for all Mail Handlers, regardless of race, color, creed, nationality, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, or physical or mental status; and

WHEREAS, the NPMHU, its affiliated Local Unions, and its thousands of dedicated representatives are working day in and day out to protect the interests of all Mail Handlers, through the negotiation and enforcement of agreements between the Union and the U.S. Postal Service for wages, job security, anti-discrimination protection, seniority, choice vacations, health and safety, and other benefits; and

WHEREAS, the NPMHU invests significant resources in achieving the best for our craft, whether by legislation, politics, grievances and arbitration, legal cases, training and education, membership communication, collective bargaining, and other means; and

WHEREAS, the NPMHU has been on the frontline for many decades, fighting to obtain, defend, and uphold our collective bargaining rights; and

WHEREAS, non-Union members are allowed by law to enjoy all the privileges and benefits negotiated by the NPMHU, as well as all job protections at the workplace, even though they pay no Union dues; and

WHEREAS, numerous studies have shown that a workforce performs at higher levels of productivity, with fewer accidents and greater job satisfaction, when all workers are treated with dignity and respect as Union members, than when the workers are exploited by management, divided amongst themselves, and alienated from their leadership; and

WHEREAS, the prohibition by law of a Union shop is designed to and does in fact undermine and weaken the solidarity of the working class and specifically of the men and women who work for the Postal Service, by encouraging postal employees to shun Union membership and exploit unfairly the courage and generosity of the Union Brothers and Sisters, turning worker against worker; and

WHEREAS, solidarity and universal Union membership among all the workers in a Union shop are the surest ways to advance the common interest of the workers in improving productivity and employment conditions and achieving dignity within the workplace; and

WHEREAS, all Mail Handlers and other postal employees should exercise their collective political power to correct the injustice of the 1970 Postal Reorganization Act's prohibition of the Union shop; and

WHEREAS, the imminent national elections offer an opportunity for all Mail Handlers and other postal employees to exercise their collective political influence to correct the unjust prohibition of the Union shop and continue the struggle for a better workplace;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this Union shall maintain a sustained effort and shall take all reasonable steps to persuade Congress and the President to amend the Postal Reorganization Act to grant postal unions the right to negotiate and enforce lawful and constitutional Union shop agreements, so that Mail Handlers and other bargaining unit employees who refuse to join the NPMHU may be charged for their fair share of representational services, including but not limited to the filing of grievances, advocacy at arbitration hearings, training and education, membership communications, and the bargaining of Local and National Agreements regarding pay and working conditions.

LEGISLATIVE AND POLITICAL COMMITTEE

Recommendation No. 2

BASED ON RESOLUTION PROPOSED BY:

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE BOARD

In Support of Vote by Mail

WHEREAS, voting is a precious constitutional right that often is made unduly difficult, and the U.S. Postal Service provides a modern, secure, efficient vehicle that has proven to increase participation and make voting much more convenient; and

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon and many other locations have proven that vote by mail expands on existing absentee balloting, eliminates the embarrassing errors of malfunctioning electronic equipment, human error, and untrained poll workers, and also preserves the necessary paper trail to certify elections while increasing participation in the election process; and

WHEREAS, the Postal Service also provides a trusted and trained, profes-

sional workforce to handle the ballots, unlike many polling places, and it will have a corollary effect of saving money that normally would be spent by state and local governments on training and paying poll workers, while at the same time providing the Postal Service with additional revenue; and

WHEREAS, in the 112th Congress, bills have been proposed to encourage voting by mail, including H.R. 2084, the Universal Right to Vote by Mail Act of 2011, with regard to federal elections;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the NPMHU supports and will work for passage of vote by mail legislation.