

AMERICA Depends on the Postal Service

What will you do if your post office closes?

If Congress doesn't do something to fix the USPS's finances by May 15, the Postal Service plans to close 3,600 post offices, consolidate 223 mail processing centers, layoff 100,000 workers, eliminate overnight delivery of first-class mail and periodicals, change two-day delivery to three days, and end six-day service. These closures, consolidations, layoffs and service changes will create massive disruptions for consumers, small businesses, our communities and our economy.

Why is this happening?

The Postal Service is facing a financial "crisis," but not for the reasons you might think.

In December 2006, Congress passed a law that requires the USPS to pre-fund 75-years' worth of future retiree health benefits over a 10-year period. No other government agency or private business is required to bear such a burden, which drains \$5.5 BILLION annually from USPS revenues.

Congress created this problem, and Congress can fix it.

Call your U.S. senators and representative at 202-224-3121 (Capitol Switchboard). Tell them to fix the USPS without destroying service or eliminating 100,000 jobs!



Ever wonder what the USPS costs taxpayers? **NOT A SINGLE CENT**

The Postal Service receives no tax dollars, and relies on the sale of postage, products and services to fund its operations.

APWU
American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

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TAKE ACTION NOW

As Senate Prepares to Vote on Postal Reform

As the Senate prepares to vote on the 21st Century Postal Service Act (Senate Bill 1789), America's postal workers are urging concerned members of the public to contact their senators and let them know that Senate bill 1789 is unacceptable in its current form.

As it's currently written, the bill would give the USPS some short-term financial relief, but also would inflict long-term damage to the nation's mail system.

The bill would force the Postal Service to close hundreds of mail processing centers, shut thousands of post offices, and cause massive delays in mail delivery. By failing to give more substantial financial relief, the bill would create massive disruptions for consumers, businesses, our communities and our economy.

To truly preserve the Postal Service, S.1789 must be amended to:

- Maintain current service standards. (This is crucial, because the Postal Service is planning to degrade delivery standards in order to eliminate half of all mail processing facilities.)
- Allow the USPS to recover overpayments the Postal Service made to its retiree pension funds.
- Adequately address the requirement that forces the USPS to pre-fund future retiree health benefits. (This mandate is the primary cause of the agency's financial crisis. No other government agency or private company bears this burden, which costs the USPS approximately \$5.5 billion annually.)
- Establish new ways to generate revenue, such as providing notary services, issuing licenses, contracting with state and local agencies to provide services, and allowing the USPS to offer services that mail systems in many other countries provide, such as digital services.
- Prevent the closing of small post offices by giving the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) binding authority to prevent closures based on the effect on the community and employees.
- Protect six-day delivery.

*Call your senators at 202-224-3121 (Capitol Switchboard).
Tell them to support these amendments to Senate Bill 1789.*

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