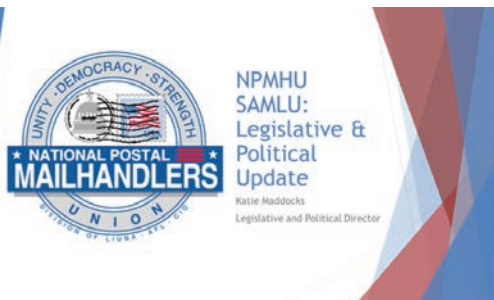


NPMHU LOOKS TOWARDS THE 46TH PRESIDENCY AND THE 117TH CONGRESS

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After an unparalleled election, the National Postal Mail Handlers Union looks forward to the inauguration of Joseph R. Biden and Kamala Harris to the Executive Branch on January 20, 2021. The election saw unprecedented voter turnout, with record breaking popular votes. Members of the NPMHU release staff were a great asset to this historic event, working with the AFL-CIO to reach out to union households with get out the vote initiatives. Because of these actions, the nation saw a pro-postal, pro-labor candidate elected to the White House.



The NPMHU struggled through the Trump Administration, fighting against privatization, protecting our right to organize, and educating elected officials on the fundamental benefit of having a functioning and sustainable United States Postal Service. We are already seeing support on these issues from the President-Elect.

As a candidate, Joe Biden commented that a Biden-Harris Administration would support and promote the Postal Service, ensuring it has the capabilities to continue to serve every American

household and business as well as protect the workforce. He further committed to protecting against privatization; pushing for the removal of the retiree healthcare prefunding mandate; investing in needed infrastructure and fleet improvements; expanding offered services; protecting the collective bargaining rights; and ensuring a quorum on the USPS Board of Governors.

In addition to these basic, comprehensive needs for the Postal Service and its workforce, Biden acknowledged the need for emergency funding, as the USPS faces drastic financial losses due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Biden recognizes the important need for comprehensive reform to ensure a viable Postal Service, but also the immediate need for assistance during this worldwide emergency. Given these words and commitments of then-candidate Biden, the NPMHU needs to remain vigilant about his actions as President to ensure he fulfills his promises to promote a healthy Postal Service during his occupancy of the White House.

Not only will the United States be getting a new President and Vice President, but the new 117th session of Congress begins on January 3, 2021. Although the NPMHU-endorsed candidate will reside at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue come mid-January, the Union did not experience the positive results we had hoped for in either the House or Senate. Democrats will remain in the majority within the House of Representatives, but their lead shrunk considerably, and they now only have a nominal vote margin. This means that,

in order to successfully push legislation forward, the majority will need to promote bipartisan bills that have support from both sides of the aisle.

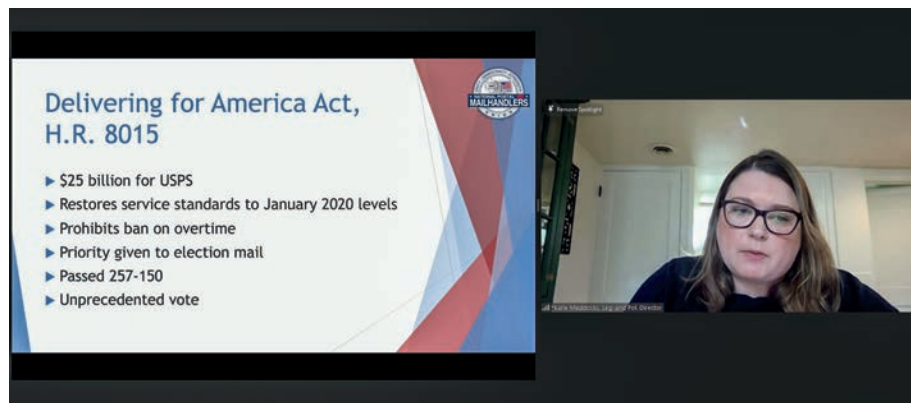
It bears noting that House-passed postal legislation in the previous session of Congress had this needed bipartisanship. The USPS Fairness Act, which called for the removal of the pre-funding mandate, passed by a vote of 309-106, and the Delivering for America Act, which called for emergency funding and promoted service standards through the election, passed with a vote of 257-150. The NPMHU and the other postal unions have always promoted the fact that postal issues are bipartisan issues. As the USPS serves urban, suburban, and rural areas, we work to ensure that all Members of Congress understand the value of the Postal Service and the dedicated work of its labor force.

The GOP held the majority within in the Senate during the 116th Congress, continually blocked postal aid during COVID relief talks. However, some Senators recognized the need to help the Postal Service and introduced stand-alone bipartisan postal legislation. Sponsored by Susan Collins (R-ME) and Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), the bill calls for emergency relief to the USPS to counteract the loss of revenue due to the pandemic, repeals borrowing stipulations implemented by the CARES Act, and requires the Postmaster General and the USPS Board of Governors to develop a plan to address the financial sustainability of the Postal Service. This last part

counters the rhetoric heard during COVID relief negotiations, when Senate Republican leadership stated that, although the Postal Service needs assistance during this crisis, reform should also be addressed. To add, as there will no longer be pressure from the White House and postal friendly Democrats have gained majority control of the Senate, it is more likely that a Biden Administration will see fruitful discussions on the future of the Postal Service.

This control of the White House and Congress was hard fought throughout the 2020 election season, and this past year's elections set spending records. Presidential election spending is estimated to have cost about \$6.6 billion, and House and Senate races cost about \$7.25 billion. This is an increase from the \$4 billion spent in the 2016 presidential election and the \$3 billion expended in the 2016 congressional elections. The cause of this increase in spending can be seen in the decreasing vote margins. It is less and less likely that elections will result in a landslide, either at the primary or general levels. This is causing greater competition among candidates, vying for voters' support.

Recognizing this competition, the NPMHU regularly gives political funding to our congressional friends and champions so they can stay on Capitol Hill, fighting on your behalf. The NPMHU PAC gives to candidates who have voted in favor of NPMHU-supported legislation, support comprehensive postal reform that protects the USPS workforce, and speak out against postal privatization and diminished services. Often it feels as if the Postal Service and its well being are put on the back burner, but our



supporters on Capitol Hill have not only kept attention on the Postal Service during the pandemic, but throughout the time it has faced financial difficulties by promoting the need to remove the harmful mandate to prefund retirees' healthcare benefits; to increase revenue and diversify products; and to protect workers' pay and benefits. If the NPMHU did not have these advocates in DC, the postal community would be vulnerable to attacks on retirement benefits, threats of privatization, and reductions in service. We therefore need to ensure that elected officials who speak out on our behalf have the resources to remain in office, and that those who speak out against us are forced out of Washington, DC.

During the November SAMLU, the NPMHU PAC recognized the Locals that raised the most money throughout 2019. Locals 333, 316, and 301 won the PACkies, Local 314 won the Most Improved Award, and Local 301 won the Ambassador Award for the third year in a row. I want to thank everyone who has given to the NPMHU PAC. Thank you for your generosity and for your leadership!

Over the past few years, total membership contributions to the PAC have

gone down. In 2017, union members contributed over \$121,000, but in 2020 that amount dropped down to less than \$92,000. At the end of my SAMLU presentation, I challenged Local Presidents to give more to the PAC with my own contribution of \$1,000. I extend this challenge to all NPMHU members. I ask you to consider giving to the PAC — even as little as \$1.00 per pay period. The PAC ensures that the NPMHU's voice is heard loud and clear on Capitol Hill. As we go into the 117th Congress with talks of COVID relief and postal reform, we need to ensure that the NPMHU can use every available avenue to educate members of the House and Senate on the importance of our issues. Instructions on how to give to the PAC, either through PostalEase or with one-time contributions, are on the following pages.

The year 2020 certainly has been a difficult one for all of us, in one way or another. The NPMHU has been doing its best: informing our elected officials and the public on the importance of the Postal Service and the work of our union. I'm sure with our continued efforts, we will be successful in 2021 as we continue to push our legislative and political agendas.

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