



Legislative Update January 2021 – Legislative Director: Lorrie Crow

The 116<sup>th</sup> Congress  
2018- 2020

Some will be leaving in January, making way for the new Members of the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress. Many will be staying and carrying on the work they started during the 116<sup>th</sup> session. It is our job to ask that they continue to fairly represent the wishes of the American People, including the support of the United States Postal Service.

We came so close on so many of the bills introduced during the 116<sup>th</sup> Congressional Session, now the slate will be wiped clean and we start all over again. We once again have two years to try and get some if not all of the bills from the 116<sup>th</sup> Congressional Session reintroduced, and passed into law. With President-Elect Biden stating that he is in full support of the Postal Service and its continued ability to provide essential services for the country, will there be a light at the end of tunnel? With the final votes tallied in Georgia, we now know that we will have a Democratic-controlled Senate for the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress. This could be in our favor, time will tell. It is still up to us to contact our representatives and ask them to support the Postal Service in either drafting new resolutions or co-sponsoring any new ones that come to light.

The following is a quick review of a few of the Resolutions/Bills that were either passed by the House or came close. These are the ones that are most likely to easily be reintroduced, so it is imperative that we start contacting our Representatives as soon as the 117<sup>th</sup> Congress is in session and doing business.

[HR 2382](#)-The USPS Fairness Act

To repeal the requirement that the United States Postal Service prepay future retirement benefits.

Introduced by Peter DeFazio on 4/29/2019

With 301 cosponsors this bill was sent to the floor for a vote and passed on 2/5/2020 with 309 Yeas and 106 Nays. It was then sent to the Senate on 2/10/2020, never to be seen again, and now we must start from the beginning. Derek Kilmer was the first of our

Representative to cosponsor this bill and might be willing to reintroduce it. Should you call and ask him to do so?

Probably!

[S 2965](#) – Also known as The USPS Fairness Act

Introduced by Senator Steve Daines of Montana on 12/3/2019. It only has 7 cosponsors to date; however, it was introduced and therefore shows that there is interest in supporting this Bill in the Senate. Neither one of our Washington Senators signed on to this Bill, so we know who to call first.

[H Res 54](#) – Expressing the Sense of the House of

Representatives that the United States Postal Service should take all appropriate measures to ensure the continuation of its 6-day mail delivery service. Introduced on 1/16/2019 by Gerald Connolly of Virginia, with 293 cosponsors by end of the 116th Congressional Session, with all 10 of Washington's Representatives cosponsoring. But there was no agreement or consensus for support reached in the House.

[S Res 99](#) – A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Congress should take all appropriate measures to ensure that the United States Postal Service remains an independent establishment of the Federal Government and is not subject to privatization.

Introduced by Gary Peters of Michigan 3/7/2019 with 54 cosponsors, both Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell signing on. Again, with no final agreement or consensus in the Senate.