



NATIONAL POSTAL MAIL HANDLERS UNION LOCAL 300 AFL-CIO-CLC

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March 8, 2010

Representative Peter King
(R-NY 3rd District)
1003 Park Boulevard
Massapequa Park, New York 11762

Congressman King:

My name is Kevin Tabarus. I reside in your congressional district. I have been working for the United States Postal Service as a Mail Handler since 1987. I am also Treasurer for the National Postal Mail Handlers Union Local 300.

I am writing to you regarding the Postal Service's plans for five (5) day delivery. We are strongly opposed to this change in service to the American public.

It has been mandated by Congress that the Postal Service deliver mail six days a week. The Postal Service has delivered mail on Saturdays for many decades. A change to only five (5) day delivery would lower the quality of service. It is very important to provide mail delivery six (6) days a week. Many citizens rely on the regular mail delivery for; social security checks, veterans benefits payments, medications, etc. Many banks and small business are open on Saturdays too. They also rely on Saturday mail delivery.

Recently, the Postmaster General announced his proposal to eliminate mail delivery on Saturday. Within this plan, was a poll claiming that, "66% of Americans would prefer 5-day delivery over using taxpayer dollars". The results of this poll are not true and accurate. When conducting this poll, they failed to give Americans all of the facts. The facts are that the Postal Service has been overpaying billions of dollars for pension funding. The United States Postal Service has been overcharged for the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) pension by **\$75 billion dollars**. When the \$75 billion dollars is returned, there shall not be a need for funding from taxpayer dollars and no need to cut mail delivery to only five (5) days. This is not the first time that the Postal Service has been overcharged; actually it is the third time. (1) In 2002, it was determined that the Postal Service would overfund CSRS by \$78 billion. Legislation in 2003 corrected this overfunding. (2) The Postal Service was overcharged for military service credits. In 2006 Congress returned these funds too.

The Postal Service is required to make Retiree Health Benefit funding for future retirees in the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS). For 2010, this pre-funding is projected to be \$5.5 billion dollars. Even the Postal Service agrees that transferring the \$75 billion CSRS overpayment would make the fund fully funded.

An Injury To One Is An Injury To All

There are many other alternatives that should be explored before cutting the **SERVICE** from the Postal Service and the American public.

The United States Postal Service is one of the largest employers in the United States, employing approximately 600,000. Many of these employees are veterans.

If five (5) day delivery is approved by Congress, thousands of postal employees would be unemployed. This country does not need the number of the unemployed to rise. In addition, much of the workforce that is left would face rescheduling to adjust to five (5) day delivery.

I am asking for your support in Congress to maintain six (6) day delivery of mail. I would appreciate a reply in this matter. I am also willing to speak with you and or a member of your staff to discuss this matter, with members from the other local postal unions including the National Association of Letter Carriers and the American Postal Workers Union.

Sincerely,

Kevin Tabarus