



American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

Mark Dimondstein, President
Judy Beard, Legislative & Political Director



LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

117th Congress

Send Privatizers in Congress a Message: The U.S. Mail Is Not For Sale!

In the new Congress, there are still elected officials, who, if they had their way, would privatize the Postal Service. Unfortunately, the threat of privatization has not disappeared. Under the previous administration, the White House Office of Management and Budget issued a restructuring plan for the Federal Government which directly called for the privatization of the Postal Service. The proposal had language posing to “restructure the U.S. Postal Service” and “prepare it for future conversion from a Government agency into a privately-held corporation.” In December of 2018, the Task Force (established in April by Executive Order) released their report calling for the partial privatization of the Postal Service and elimination of collective bargaining over wages and benefits.

What Does Privatization Mean?

- Privatization means the end of our publicly owned and operated United States Postal Service, to be replaced in part or in whole by private corporate interests.
- Privatization means the elimination of our jobs with all of our negotiated benefits. Further, it jeopardizes the future of our hard-earned retirement and healthcare benefits.
- Privatization means the end of Universal Service. Fulfilling its mission enshrined in the U.S. Constitution, the Postal Service provides affordable, reliable, and timely mail service to all Americans regardless of their health or wealth, who they are or where they live. Driven by its profit motive, a private company will not deliver a letter from Miami to Anchorage for 55 cents.

The Stakes

Privatizing the Postal Service and eliminating its Universal Service mandate will have a very real and very negative impact on those who depend on affordable, reliable mail delivery. It means cuts to service for millions of Americans, particularly those in rural areas and inner cities. As the White House Report highlights, privatization can mean hiked postage rates and the end of timely service and door delivery.



House Resolution 47 (Introduced on January 13, 2021)

In response to this report, Congressional Representatives **Stephen Lynch (D-MA)** and **Rodney Davis (R-IL)** introduced **House Resolution 47**, 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.

The threats of postal privatization, the threats to decent union jobs, the threats to good services, are real. It is important that we remind our lawmakers that the Postal Service belongs to the public and privatization should not be brought up in this new Congress.

The American Postal Workers Union stands with the people of this country and our many allies in the ongoing fight to ensure a vibrant public Postal Service for generations to come.

Contact the APWU Legislative and Political Department at (202) 842-4211 for more information
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