



American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

1300 L Street, NW, Washington, DC 20005

May 1, 2003

William Burrus
President
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By Facsimile and First Class Mail

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President's Commission on the
United States Postal Service
1120 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Suite 971
Washington, D.C. 20005

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Director, Maintenance Division

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Director, MVS Division

RE: Request for Hearings on the Rate-Setting Process

Dear Chairmen:

I am writing to urge that the Commission hold hearings concerning the rate-setting process. Although there is substantial support for shortening and streamlining the rate-setting process, and for giving the Postal Service more control over rates, there are other important aspects of the rate-setting process that have not been given adequate consideration.

The Commission should hold a hearing at which it will receive testimony on (1) the mechanics of the rate-setting process; (2) the history of postal rates in relation to the Postal Service's financial health, operational changes, and ability to meet service standards; (3) the appropriate criteria or parameters for rate-setting; and (4) the likely future course of postal rates. These are critical considerations that warrant the concentrated attention of the Commission during a dedicated day of hearings.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

William Burrus
President

Regional Coordinators

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