



American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

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LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

116th Congress

STOP the White House Plan to Privatize USPS

For years, conservative think tanks like the Heritage Foundation have advocated for the privatization of the Postal Service. Now, we are seeing their efforts pay off. In June of 2018, 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 would “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.



What Is Universal Service?

Universal Service is the key difference between our public United States Postal Service and any private company intended to replace it.

Universal Service is the Postal Service’s mandate to, “bind the nation together through the personal, educational, literary and business correspondence of the people.” 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.

Universal Service is not a mission a private corporation will adhere to. 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.

This White House plan is a wake-up call to every postal worker and APWU member. The threats of postal privatization, the threats to decent union jobs, the threats to good services, are real.

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.

House Resolution 33

Introduced by Stephen Lynch (D-MA) and Rodney Davis (R-IL)

Senate Resolution 99

Introduced by Gary Peters (D-MI) and Jerry Moran (R-KS)

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives and 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.

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