

American Postal Workers Union, AFL-CIO

Judy Beard, Legislative & Political Director

Jonathan Smith, President



LEGISLATIVE ACTION CENTER

Ever find yourself overwhelmed and asking, *what can I do?* You are not alone. The fights we take on in Congress touch every postal worker and every community we serve. From protecting good union jobs to defending universal service, progress comes when working people take action together. **Use our new webpage to get involved, take action, and lift up your voice.**

STEP 1: GET TO THE PAGE

Go to the Following Webpage:
apwu.org/legislative-action-center/

OR

Scan this QR Code



STEP 2: TAKE ACTION

This webpage has a number of ways APWU members can take action. These actions include, but are not limited to:

1. Contributing to COPA
2. Registering to Vote
3. Calling the Legislative Hotline at 1-844-402-1001
4. Joining a Rally or Action
5. Getting Involved in your AFL-CIO Central Labor Council (CLC) or State Federation
6. Finding Your Representatives and Scheduling a Meeting

Contact the APWU Legislative and
Political Department at
legislative@apwu.org or 202-842-4211
for more information

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LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

119th CONGRESS

APWU STRONGLY OPPOSES USPS PRIVATIZATION

Many in the current administration are saying privatization is a quick fix to the problems facing USPS. Selling the Postal Service to the highest bidder would not only lead to a reduction in service and higher postage rates, it would place postal workers' health insurance, retirement benefits, collective bargaining rights, salaries, and jobs in jeopardy. While we know resolutions are not binding, nor law, these resolutions express the strong sense of Congress that the USPS must stay a public service, as intended by the Constitution.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 70 AND SENATE RESOLUTION 147

Lead Cosponsors: Rep. Stephen Lynch (D-MA-08), Rep. Nick LaLota (R-NY-01), Sen. Gary Peters (D-MI) and Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-AK)

These resolutions, introduced in the House on January 28, 2025 and the Senate on March 27, 2025, express the House and Senate's support for taking all appropriate measures to ensure that the Postal Service is not subject to privatization.

The resolutions read as follows:

Expressing the sense of the [House or 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.

Privatization would mean the end of our publicly owned and operated USPS, to be replaced in part, or whole, by private corporations interested only in lining their own pockets.

This would also mean the potential elimination of our jobs and our negotiated benefits. More specifically, it jeopardizes the future of our hard-earned retirement and healthcare benefits.

The establishment of post offices is enshrined in the U.S. Constitution and by law, USPS must provide service to all parts of the nation. Privatizing the Postal Service and eliminating this universal service mandate will have a very real and very negative impact on those who depend on affordable and reliable mail delivery. Privatization would drive up postage rates and lead to reduced service, especially to rural America.

Postal workers and our unions have joined with the public to fight for the vibrant, independent, and public Postal Service we all deserve.

Urge Your Members of Congress to Protect Our Public Postal Service by Supporting H.Res. 70 and S. Res. 147!



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LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

APWU SUPPORTS ON-TIME RETIREMENT FOR ALL

Postal workers who begin their postal career as temporary employees are currently not allowed to make contributions to their retirement benefits until they become USPS career employees. This bill, if signed into law, would correct this injustice by providing career employees the opportunity to make up contributions to their retirement benefits and earn credit for the time they worked as a temporary postal employee. This will allow these employees to retire on time with their full, hard-earned retirement benefits.

THE FEDERAL RETIREMENT FAIRNESS ACT (H.R. 1522)

Lead Cosponsors: Rep. Emily Randall (D-WA-06), Rep. David Valadao (R-CA-22), Rep. Nikki Budzinski (D-IL-13) and Rep. Don Bacon (R-NE-02)

This bill, reintroduced in the House on February 24, 2025, would allow temporary postal and federal employees who are promoted to career positions the option of “buying back” the time that they worked as a non-career employee to use toward their retirement.

Temporary postal employees are non-career employees, such as PSEs, transitional employees, and casuals, who are unable to make contributions to their retirement benefits until they become USPS career employees.

After making career status, postal workers were previously allowed to make retroactive “catch up” contributions to their retirement benefits for all the time they worked as a temporary employee. Unfortunately, the authority to make retroactive payments expired on January 1, 1989.

Under the bill’s proposed “buy back” language, eligible postal workers would make a deposit equal to the amount that would have been contributed to their retirement benefits, had they been career employees. The calculation is determined by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

This legislation would help postal and federal employees better prepare for their retirement. It would affect more than 100,000 APWU members who have converted from temporary to career positions.



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HOW TO FIND YOUR FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

STEP 1

Go to the following webpage:
www.commoncause.org/find-your-representative

OR

Scan this QR code




STEP 2

Type in your current address and hit "Submit"




Who Are My Representatives?

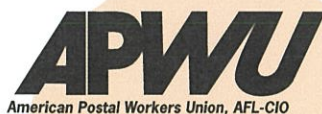
Enter your full address below to get started:



STEP 3

Click on the red boxes to find your federal, state, and local representatives

All	Federal	State	Local
 <p>Michael "Mike" C. Johnston (NP) County Executive Head 1437 Bannock St Denver, CO, 80202 Homepage Instagram Linkedin Contact</p>	 <p>Sarah Parady (NP) County Legislature//Executive Board 1437 Bannock St Room 451 Denver, CO, 80202 Homepage Linkedin</p>	 <p>Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez (NP) County Legislature//Executive Board 1437 Bannock St Rm. 451 Denver, CO, 80202 Homepage Instagram Linkedin</p>	



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MEETING WITH YOUR MEMBER OF CONGRESS

HOW TO SCHEDULE A MEETING

NOTE: Do not speak on behalf of your state, local, or retiree chapter without prior authorization from your president. However, you can always speak for yourself in a personal capacity.

To schedule a meeting:

1. Call the U.S. Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121
2. Tell the automated operator the representative or senator you are trying to schedule a meeting with
3. Ask to speak with the office scheduler or a staffer that handles postal matters. If no one is available, ask for an email address
4. In your email to the office:
 - Identify yourself as a constituent and provide your address
 - State your role within APWU
 - Give them a **short** summary of what you want to discuss
 - Make a specific request for a meeting (in person, by phone, or virtual)

Pro Tip: If you are unable to get a meeting, attend a public event with the elected official, such as a rally or town hall, and ask the member for a meeting directly.

HOW TO PREPARE

- Do your homework on the member
 - What are their policy positions?
 - What committees do they serve on?
- Know your issues
 - Obtain a copy of the APWU legislative priorities on our website
- Tailor your request to their position
- Think of a story that is personal, relevant, and took place in the district
- If you are going as a group, assign roles early and meet in advance
- Practice your pitch

THE MEETING

- In advance of the meeting, send a note to confirm the time and place, plus list the participant names, their titles or roles, and street addresses (within the congressional district or state)
- Introduce yourselves and establish yourselves as leaders in your union and community
- Tell your relevant story and connect it to your position on a bill or issue
- Arrive early and remember to be polite

CLOSING THE DEAL

- Always make a direct ask
- Follow up with a thank you note:
 - Summarize your ask and explain how your ask is good policy
 - Thank them for their time
 - Reiterate any commitments made
 - Provide them with a digital copy of any legislative priority or other documents that support your ask