

Dear Member of Congress,

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As a resident in your district, I write you through the US Mail concerning an important issue to AMERICANS. The US Postal Service is being incorrectly portrayed as an entity of the government that is outdated and in financial trouble.

The Postal Service operates daily regardless of environmental conditions and does so without receiving any taxpayer dollars following the enactment of the Postal Reorganization Act of 1971. Since that time, the USPS has paid for its operations and expenses out of its' sale of postage and services. There are no other Federal agencies that pay for their own expenses.

Since 2006, the USPS has been mandated to *pre-pay* future retiree health benefits and to do so within ten years. There are no other private corporations or Federal agencies that are required to make advance payments for current and future retirees. In fact, all other Federal agencies combined do not have to pay the amount the USPS is required to pay!

Far from being a burden on the taxpayer, were it not for these payments, the Postal Service would have shown a profit of hundreds of millions of dollars in the last 5 years, in spite of the recession we've been in.

In addition, studies commissioned by the Office of Inspector General and the Postal Regulatory Commission and conducted by independent auditors, have found that the USPS has been *overcharged* by \$50-75 billion for its employee's pensions, thus subsidizing the Federal Treasury.

In an amazing coincidence, the \$5.5 billion that the Postal Service is required to pay each year for these future retiree health benefits is exactly the same amount OPM discovered it was overcharging the USPS each year.

The term bailout is a catch phrase used by many that portrays a mismanaged company that requires help from the US Treasury and taxpayers. This does not apply to the USPS.

I will say it again, the Postal Service uses NO TAXPAYER MONEY !!

Employees of the USPS have responded to change often. Weather, policy changes, security, and technology, to name a few. Reacting to the world economy, the USPS has improvised and re-created jobs to keep the mail relevant and moving.

In response to declining mail volumes due to the recession and technological changes, the Unions have entered into agreements with Postal management that address these current and future situations. Tens of thousands of positions have been eliminated, downsizing the work force in the last decade.

There are two efforts before Congress that address the need to preserve the vital service to America that the Postal Service provides. These bills would do so while maintaining jobs within the USPS as well as those companies that rely on the USPS. One is House Resolution 137 and the other is H.R. 1351. Both have bipartisan support. I ask that you join the other Members of Congress and cosponsor both actions. They will protect six day delivery and address the overpayment issue.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Please supply me with a written response stating your position on these issues.

Respectfully submitted,

NAME, ADDRESS, DATE, ETC.