



From the Desk of
Representative
Val Hoyle

Tom Chamberlain, *President*
Barbara Byrd, *Secretary-Treasurer*

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May 2, 2013

Dear Representative,

Please vote yes on HJM 15.

HJM 15 would encourage Congress to pass the Postal Service Protection Act of 2013.

Currently post offices across Oregon are slated for closure, and all Oregon distribution centers except for the centers located in Portland and Medford are slated to close in the next year. Mail from as far away as Bend and Baker City is already being trucked to Portland to be sorted.

These closures will touch virtually every community in Oregon. They will leave small towns with diminished service. In fact, in many towns across Oregon you already cannot depend on a letter getting across town in one day - a service the USPS has offered for over 200 years.

Given that every post office in Oregon is also a ballot box, post office closures and distribution center closures would have an even greater affect in Oregon than they would in other states. All ballots would be sent through the Portland and Medford distribution centers before they were sent back to individual county elections offices.

The Postal Service Protection Act would prioritize keeping local post offices open. It would remove the burden of pre-paying retirement costs for future workers who are not even hired yet, returning postal service budgets to the black, and allowing the postal service the flexibility to become an innovative agency again.

In an effort to get every Oregon Congressional Delegate signed on in support of the Postal Service Protection Act, in support of all our state's communities, and on behalf of the Postal Service employees across Oregon, I urge your support for HJM 15.

Sincerely,

Tom Chamberlain
President, Oregon AFL-CIO