

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Be Adopted
Vote:	4 - 0 - 1
Yeas:	Beyer, Burdick, Starr, Rosenbaum
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Ferrioli
Prepared By:	Lori Brocker, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Urges Congress to support passage of Postal Service Protection Act of 2013.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Recent changes in United States Postal Service (USPS)
- Impact of sorting center consolidation and closures in Oregon
- Impact of reduced accessibility to USPS services in rural communities
- USPS pension fund
- USPS future retiree health care costs
- Use of private providers for services formerly performed by USPS
- Impact of service reductions on letter carriers
- USPS adaptation to technological change

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Postal Service Protection Act of 2013 was introduced in the United State House of Representatives by Oregon Congressman Peter DeFazio on February 13, 2013. If the Act is enacted, it would preserve functions of the United States Postal Service (USPS) and address immediate financial difficulties that could render the USPS insolvent.

The Postal Service Protection Act of 2013 would prohibit reducing mail delivery to fewer than six days each week and prevent the proposed reduction of postal services on Saturdays. It would eliminate the existing requirement for pre-funding 75 years of retiree health care benefit payments over a 10-year period. The Act would also set forth rules for the recalculation of annuities for employees of the USPS and allow the USPS to recover over-payments made to the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and the Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS). In addition, it would allow the USPS to develop new products and services that could generate new sources of revenue, such as issuing licenses, ending the prohibition on beer and wine shipments, and providing notary services.

5/23/2013 2:29:00 PM

This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.