

Enrolled

House Joint Memorial 15

Sponsored by Representatives HOYLE, CLEM, Senator FERRIOLI; Representatives BARNHART, BARTON, BERGER, BUCKLEY, FAGAN, GILLIAM, GOMBERG, GORSEK, HICKS, JENSON, KRIEGER, LIVELY, MATTHEWS, MCKEOWN, MCLANE, PARRISH, REARDON, VEGA PEDERSON, WILLIAMSON, WITT, Senators BEYER, COURTNEY, GIROD, HASS, PROZANSKI, ROBLAN, SHIELDS, STEINER HAYWARD, WINTERS

To the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

We, your memorialists, the Seventy-seventh Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas the United States Postal Service was established pursuant to Article 1, section 8, clause 7, of the United States Constitution; and

Whereas due to crippling legislation mandating unsustainable practices, the United States Postal Service is facing insolvency and the necessity of eliminating many jobs and services; and

Whereas Congressman Peter DeFazio introduced the Postal Service Protection Act of 2013 (H.R. 630, 113th Cong., 1st Sess.) in the United States House of Representatives on February 13, 2013; and

Whereas Senator Bernie Sanders introduced the Postal Service Protection Act of 2013 (S. 316, 113th Cong., 1st Sess.) in the United States Senate on February 13, 2013; and

Whereas if enacted, the Postal Service Protection Act would preserve essential functions of and solve the most immediate financial difficulties facing the United States Postal Service; and

Whereas the Postal Service Protection Act would protect six-day delivery and prevent the proposed reduction of postal services on Saturdays, a cost-cutting measure that would adversely affect many customers and cause them to seek other mail options; and

Whereas the Postal Service Protection Act would eliminate the existing requirement that the United States Postal Service make 75 years' worth of retiree health care benefit payments over a 10-year period, a burden no other government agency or private company is required to bear; and

Whereas the Postal Service Protection Act would allow the United States Postal Service to recover overpayments to its pension plans that amount to approximately \$50 billion, according to some studies; and

Whereas the Postal Service Protection Act would prevent the closure of rural post offices by giving the Postal Regulatory Commission binding authority to prevent post offices from being closed if the closure would adversely affect the community and employees of the post office; and

Whereas the Postal Service Protection Act would help to ensure that the United States Postal Service remains a viable and competitive institution that can provide services essential to the public; and

Whereas because the State of Oregon utilizes a vote-by-mail system, Oregonians have a unique relationship with the United States Postal Service; and

Whereas closing rural post offices and otherwise reducing postal services would adversely affect the ability of many Oregonians to exercise their constitutionally protected right to vote; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

(1) The Congress of the United States is respectfully urged to support the passage of the Postal Service Protection Act of 2013.

(2) A copy of this memorial shall be sent to the Senate Majority Leader, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

Adopted by House May 7, 2013

Ramona J. Line, Chief Clerk of House

Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Adopted by Senate May 28, 2013

Peter Courtney, President of Senate