



GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Senate introduces anti-privatization resolution

March 27, 2025

Today, Sens. Gary Peters (D-MI) and Dan Sullivan (R-AK) introduced a Senate resolution ([S.Res. 147](#)) that calls on Congress to take all appropriate measures to ensure that the Postal Service remains an independent establishment of the federal government and is not subject to privatization.

Four senators joined the bipartisan leads as original co-sponsors: Sens. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Susan Collins (R-ME), Thom Tillis (R-NC) and Maggie Hassan (D-NH).

The Senate version is identical to the House version ([H.Res. 70](#)), which was introduced by Reps. Stephen Lynch (D-MA) and Nick LaLota (R-NY) in January and currently has 180 co-sponsors.

“Letter carriers take great pride in the work they do, providing universal service to every address in the nation,” NALC President Brian L. Renfro said. “Every member of Congress represents constituents who depend on the Postal Service. I urge every representative to sign on to this resolution.”

“For more than 250 years, the Postal Service has been a cornerstone of our nation, connecting every household and business across the country,” Sen. Peters said. “Any efforts to undermine the Postal Service’s independence or privatize it would jeopardize affordable, universal mail service and harm the millions of Americans—especially veterans, small business owners, and rural communities—who rely on the Postal Service every day.”

This resolution reaffirms our commitment to keeping the Postal Service independent and self-sustaining, ensuring it continues to serve as a vital lifeline for all Americans.”

“In a state as vast as Alaska, with many remote communities only accessible by air or water, the USPS serves as an essential government agency, that keeps postal services affordable for Alaskans,” Sen. Sullivan said. “I am glad to work with my colleagues from other rural states on this resolution to oppose the privatization of the USPS and ensure that this critical agency remains focused on its statutory requirement to reliably deliver mail to every household, no matter how remote.”

Take action

[Click here](#) to ask your representative to co-sponsor H.Res. 70/S.Res. 147.

[Click here](#) for the fact sheet.

Congress funds government through Sept. 30, avoids government shutdown

Mar 15, 2025

Today, President Donald Trump signed a bill to fund the government through Sept. 30, narrowly avoiding a partial shutdown.

In another contentious week on Capitol Hill, the House voted 217-213 to pass the Republican-led bill on Tuesday. Only two members crossed party lines, with Rep. Thomas Massie (R-KY) voting against the bill and Rep. Jared Golden (D-ME) voting for its passage.

On Friday, with hours left to spare before the deadline, the Senate passed the bill in a 54-46 vote. Minority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) supported the bill along with eight other Democratic senators and one independent (who caucuses with the Democrats).

Since Postal Service operations are not subject to the Congressional budget process, a shutdown would not have affected letter carriers’ daily work. Still, NALC remains engaged in the annual appropriations process to ensure no proposals would affect letter carriers’ benefits or any Postal Service operations.

Overall, the bill funds the government through Sept. 30 at the levels set by the fiscal 2024 spending laws. The bill increases funding for defense and immigration enforcement while cutting non-defense discretionary spending by \$13 billion, reflecting Republican priorities.

As Congress begins work on Fiscal Year 2026, debates over fiscal responsibility and the role of government agencies are expected to intensify in the coming months, focusing on defense funding, social program allocations, and broader fiscal policies. The passage of this continuing resolution marks a significant turning point in the fiscal year, with long-term implications for both immediate funding and policy.

NALC will update letter carriers as the House and Senate budget and appropriations process continues.

Senate confirms labor secretary nominee Lori Chavez-DeRemer

Mar 11, 2025

On March 10, in a 67-32 vote, the Senate confirmed Lori Chavez-DeRemer as the next secretary of labor. The confirmation followed a bipartisan 14-9 vote in the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) after a hearing on Feb. 19, where her qualifications and views on labor policies were thoroughly examined.

Earlier this year, President Donald Trump nominated Chavez-DeRemer, a former one term Oregon Congresswoman, to lead the agency. In her time in Congress, Chavez-DeRemer proved to be a steadfast ally to letter carriers and organized labor and worked across party lines to advocate for policies that strengthen labor protections, expand collective bargaining, ensure safe working conditions, and protect retirement benefits. The Department of Labor (DOL) plays a key role in advancing economic opportunities, and if confirmed, her leadership will be crucial to ensuring the safety and well-being of workers.

“NALC congratulates Lori Chavez-DeRemer on her confirmation to serve as the next secretary of labor,” NALC President Brian L. Renfro said. “We look forward to working with her in our ongoing efforts for a national heat safety standard and to improve the services administered through the Office of Workers’ Compensation Programs, which letter carriers injured on-the-job rely on.”

Prior to the Senate committee hearing, NALC issued a [statement of support](#).

In advance of the Senate committee vote, NALC issued a [letter of support](#).

PRO Act reintroduced in House and Senate

Mar 07, 2025

The Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act ([H.R. 20/S. 852](#)) was reintroduced in Congress today. Reps. Bobby Scott (D-VA) and Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) introduced the bill in the House, and Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT) introduced the legislation in the Senate. The PRO Act would strengthen protections under the National Labor Relations Act, ensuring workers the right to organize and collectively bargain for better wages, benefits, and working conditions.

The bill also would create a mediation and arbitration process to ensure that corporations and newly formed unions reach a first contract, authorize unions and employers to negotiate agreements that allow unions to collect fair-share fees that cover the costs of representation, and protect the integrity of union elections against coercive “captive audience” meetings.

Additionally, the PRO Act would streamline the National Labor Relations Board’s procedures to effectively prevent violations by establishing penalties on corporations that

violate workers' rights, and by combatting the misclassification of workers as supervisors and independent contractors.

"NALC is fortunate to be an open shop with more than 93 percent of letter carriers choosing to be members of our union," NALC President Brian L. Renfroe said. "We do not take our right to organize for granted. We know that our country is stronger when workers are empowered and protected through unions. NALC fully supports the PRO Act, which would make it easier for every worker to form and join a union, and urges Congress to pass this bill."

February 26, 2025

Social Security Fairness Act implementation update

Yesterday, the Social Security Administration (SSA) announced that starting this week (Feb. 24, 2025), the agency is beginning to pay retroactive benefits and will increase monthly benefit payments to people who were affected by the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO).

Beneficiaries who are owed retroactive benefits will receive a one-time retroactive payment. This payment will date back to January 2024, the month when WEP and GPO no longer applied.

Social Security benefits are paid one month behind, so most affected beneficiaries will begin receiving their new monthly benefit amount in April 2025 (for their March 2025 benefit).

The agency has expedited payments through automation but cautioned that complex cases cannot be processed automatically and will require additional time.

Affected beneficiaries are urged to wait until April to inquire about the status of their retroactive payment since these payments will be processed incrementally throughout March.

For more information, please visit SSA's Social Security Fairness Act [web page](#).

February 25, 2025

Feb. 26 Day of Action! Tell the White House: Hands Off the Postal Service

Following last week's reports of a planned executive order to dismantle the Postal Service, the threats against our jobs, universal service, and a self-sufficient, independent USPS are real.

While the White House has yet to release an executive order regarding the Postal Service, the threat is looming.

On Monday, hundreds of NALC members, union leaders, and other union members rallied in Washington, DC, against these potential efforts.

Together, we must continue sending a loud and clear message: Hands off the Postal Service!



Join us for NALC's Wednesday, Feb. 26 Day of Action as we tell the White House "hell no!" to dismantling the Postal Service.

Click here to contact the White House.

Questions? Follow these steps.

1. **Click here.**
2. Complete the form.
3. Add a brief message or copy and paste the sample language below into the comment box (4,000 characters max).
4. Click "Submit."

Sample language

I am a proud letter carrier employed by the United States Postal Service. Any effort to dismantle or privatize USPS is a threat to my job, the jobs of all 640,000 postal employees (73,000 of whom are veterans), the 51.5 million rural addresses who rely on our service, and our nation's Constitution. USPS isn't funded by taxpayer dollars, and for the sake of every American who depends on the Postal Service, it should remain a self-sufficient independent agency. Hands off USPS!

Ask your members of Congress to co-sponsor NALC's legislative priorities

NALC has several legislative priorities this Congress, and it is important to contact your members of Congress to ask them to co-sponsor these critical pieces of legislation.

If a member of Congress wants to support letter careers, co-sponsoring these priorities is the best way to do so. Please visit nalc.org/action to ask them to co-sponsor the following:

- Federal Retirement Fairness Act (H.R. 1522)
- Anti-privatization resolution (H.Res. 70)
- Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (H.R. 1065/S. 463)

February 06, 2025

Congress reintroduces bipartisan Protect Our Letter Carriers Act

Today, bipartisan lawmakers in the House and Senate reintroduced the Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (POLCA) ([H.R. 1065/S.463](#)). Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Greg Landsman (D-OH) introduced the House version, and Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Josh Hawley (R-MO) co-led the Senate version.

The bills are identical to the House and Senate versions introduced last Congress and include three measures to deter the increasing crimes and assaults committed against letter carriers on the job:

- \$7 billion in funding (appropriated over five years) to replace and modernize postal infrastructure that criminals often seek out.
- Designation for an assistant district attorney in each judicial district to prioritize cases involving an assault against a letter carrier in a timely manner.
- Standardizing sentencing guidelines for those who are found guilty of committing these crimes.

While the Postal Service has started to roll out modernized technology in certain areas and the prosecution rates for these crimes have increased some, crimes against letter carriers continue to persist at an alarming rate, and this bill is the next step to stop these crimes from happening.

Between 2019 and 2023 (the most recent data available), the number of serious crimes against postal employees nearly doubled. In 2023, postal inspectors opened 1,367 cases, 542 assaults, 628 robberies, and 197 burglaries, against postal employees in almost 500 metropolitan areas. Over two-thirds of these attacks involve a firearm or other weapon. Tragically, five letter carriers have been murdered while dutifully doing their jobs since 2022.

“NALC appreciates Rep. Fitzpatrick, Rep. Landsman, Sen. Gillibrand, and Sen Hawley’s continued leadership on this critical issue that is so important to letter carriers and every community we serve,” NALC President Brian L. Renfroe said.

“Enough is enough. Like all Americans, letter carriers have the right to go to work, do their jobs, and return home unharmed. It’s time for Congress to prioritize what’s important and pass this bill, and we are going to fight like hell to get it done.”

Take action

Click [here](#) to ask your members of Congress to co-sponsor H.R. 1065/S. 463.

Click [here](#) for our fact sheet.



House bills

Protect Our Letter Carriers Act - H.R. 1065

Status: Introduced by Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Greg Landsman (D-OH) on Feb. 6, 2025

Co-sponsors: 76 (68 Democratic – 8 Republican)

To facilitate the implementation of security measures undertaken by the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

Fact sheet

Federal Retirement Fairness Act - H.R. 1522

Status: Introduced by Reps. Gerry Connolly (D-VA), Nikki Budzinski (D-IL), David Valadao (R-CA), and Don Bacon (R-NE) on Feb. 24, 2025

Co-sponsors: 57 (49 Democratic – 8 Republican)

To amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that civilian service in a temporary position after December 31, 1988, may be creditable service under the Federal Employees Retirement System, and for other purposes.

Fact sheet

House resolution

Anti-privatization resolution - H. Res. 70

Status: Introduced by Reps. Stephen Lynch (D-MA) and Nick LaLota (R-NY) on Jan. 28,

2025

Co-sponsors: 180 (169 Democratic – 11 Republican)

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives 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.

Fact sheet

Senate bill

Protect Our Letter Carriers Act - S. 463

Status: Introduced by Sens. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY) and Josh Hawley (R-MO) on Feb. 6, 2025

Co-sponsors: 1 (0 Democratic – 1 Republican)

To facilitate the implementation of security measures undertaken by the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

Fact sheet

Senate resolution

Anti-privatization resolution - S. Res. 147

Status: Introduced by Sens. Gary Peters (D-MI), Dan Sullivan (R-AK), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Susan Collins (R-ME), Thom Tillis (R-NC) and Maggie Hassan (D-NH) on March 28, 2025

Co-sponsors: 5 (4 Democratic – 1 Republican)

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives 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.

Fact sheet