



# GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

## House passes voter suppression legislation

Feb 11, 2026

Today, in a 218-213 vote, the House passed the SAVE America Act (S. 1383), a bill that would make it more difficult for U.S. citizens to vote in person or by mail.

NALC opposed this bill and sent a [letter to representatives](#) urging them to vote “no” ahead of the vote.

Even though voting by mail is a popular, safe and secure option, and nearly 1 in 3 Americans voted by mail in 2024, S. 1383 would put numerous restrictions on who can vote by mail. If implemented, mail-in ballots would be rejected unless a form of identification were included, making an already secure and reliable process more difficult.

The bill would also implement a nationwide, mandatory photo ID requirement for voting in federal elections, whether in person or by mail. It would further limit access to the ballot box by making registering to vote and maintaining registration more difficult. To register or update registration, voters would be required to present a valid passport or birth certificate. Tens of millions of Americans do not have passports, and birth certificates present complications, particularly for married women who change their last names. Subsequent documentation would be required to account for a name change.

Instances of non-citizens voting are extremely rare. In 2024, election officials found no evidence of widespread or systemic fraud.

The bill now heads to the Senate, where it faces an uphill battle.

House passage of the SAVE America Act is just the latest in the Republican majority’s continued interest in bills that would make it more difficult to vote, including a committee hearing this week that focused on another voter suppression bill, the Make Elections Great Again (MEGA) Act (H.R. 7300).

These types of bills undermine the validity and security of vote-by-mail while making it more difficult for U.S. citizens to vote. NALC opposes any effort that suppresses Americans' voting rights.

## House Labor Caucus briefed on letter carrier issues

Jan 21, 2026



Today, NALC President Brian Renfroe briefed the House Labor Caucus on the most pressing issues facing letter carriers on and off Capitol Hill.

The Labor Caucus is a group of more than 120 representatives working to advance the priorities of workers and the labor movement.

The following representatives attended the meeting: Mark Pocan (D-WI), Steven Horsford (D-NV), Steven Lynch (D-MA), Judy Chu (D-CA), Jesus “Chuy” Garcia (D-IL), Nikki Budzinski (D-IL), Salud Carbajal (D-CA), Marcy Kaptur (D-OH), Emilia Sykes (D-OH), Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Bobby Scott (D-VA), Sean Casten (D-IL), LaMonica McIver (D-NJ), Chris Deluzio (D-PA), Glenn Ivey (D-MD), Gil Cisneros (D-CA), Greg Landsman (D-OH), James Walkinshaw (D-VA) and Kweisi Mfume (D-MD).

Caucus members were briefed on and urged to support NALC’s priority legislation, which includes the Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (H.R. 1065), the Federal Retirement Fairness Act (H.R. 1522), the Improving Access to Workers’ Compensation Act (H.R. 3170), the anti-privatization resolution (H.Res. 70) and the USPS Shipping Equity Act (H.R. 3011). They were also briefed on the Postal Service’s finances, the need to modernize the network, and vote-by-mail, especially related to the Postal Service’s recent announcement regarding postmark timing.

A significant portion of the meeting was devoted to representatives' questions. Several members raised concerns about carrier safety and on-the-job crime. Rep. Landsman, the co-lead of the Protect Our Letter Carriers Act, urged caucus members to co-sponsor the bill, emphasizing that the goal was to reach 290 supporters to help bring it to the House floor.

Many members brought up the upcoming midterm elections and how the postmark announcement could affect mail-in ballots. Renfro assured members that, from the delivery side, letter carriers are equipped and prepared to get the job done as they always have.

Rep. Cisneros asked about the status of new postal vehicles. Renfro explained that while they "cannot come soon enough," the production and delivery of new vehicles are on track with the projected timeline.

Rep. Walkinshaw asked questions about the Postal Service's finances and how members of Congress could support NALC in its upcoming contract negotiations. Renfro explained that one of the biggest hurdles we face regarding our contract is ensuring postal management nationwide upholds its end of the bargain and complies with the agreed terms.

Overall, the caucus members praised letter carriers for their work and committed to ways they could support NALC members.

## Senate introduces bill expanding provider access for federal employees injured on the job

Dec 02, 2025

Today, Sens. Collins (R-ME) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) introduced the Improving Access to Workers' Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act (S. 3296).

The bill would expand access to providers by amending the Federal Employees' Compensation Act to allow federal workers injured on the job to receive treatment from physician associates/physician assistants (PAs) and nurse practitioners (NPs). Current law prohibits PAs and NPs from treating federal workers in workers' compensation cases.

Increasingly, PAs and NPs provide critical care to patients, especially in rural and underserved communities. This bill would increase the number of eligible providers, making it easier for injured federal workers, including letter carriers, to access the care they need.

In May, Reps. Tim Walberg (R-MI) and Joe Courtney (D-CT) introduced H.R. 3170, the House version of the bill. The same month, NALC President Brian L. Renfro testified before the House Subcommittee on Workforce Protections, highlighting the urgent need to pass this bill. In June, the Committee on Education and Workforce unanimously advanced the bill, but the legislation has yet to receive a vote on the House floor.

"Postal employees account for nearly half of the claims made to the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs each year, and letter carriers file most of these claims," Renfro said. "If we're injured on the job, finding convenient care with the provider of our choice is the top priority. NALC supports this bill and calls on Congress to pass it."

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

[Click here](#) to ask your members of Congress to co-sponsor H.R. 3170/S. 3296.

# House establishes bipartisan postal caucus

Jul 30, 2025

Today, Reps. Nikki Budzinski (D-IL), Chris Pappas (D-NH), Andrew Garbarino (R-NY), and Jack Bergman (R-MI) announced they would lead the House bipartisan postal caucus in the 119th Congress.

“NALC appreciates these representatives leading the bipartisan postal caucus,” NALC President Brian L. Renfroe said. “Protecting letter carriers, strengthening the Postal Service’s universal network, keeping USPS a public, independent agency, and pursuing commonsense financial reforms are critical to our daily service to nearly 169 million homes and businesses that rely on us.

“NALC looks forward to working with the leaders of the postal caucus and all its members on these priorities,” he added.

Rep. Budzinski said she plans “to push back against postal privatization, improve speed and service, and protect good-paying union jobs at USPS.”

Rep. Pappas called the Postal Service “an essential public service that seniors, families, and businesses rely on for their medications, mail and packages.”

Rep. Garbarino laid out his objectives to “support postal workers, ensure the system operates efficiently and effectively in every community, and advance commonsense reforms that strengthen the Postal Service long term.”

Rep. Bergman referenced the need for “modernization and reform” but explained that *“changes must not come at the expense of rural and remote communities.”*

## Resolution recognizing Postal Service 250th anniversary introduced in Senate

Jul 24, 2025

Today, Sens. Gary Peters (D-MI) and Dan Sullivan (R-AK) introduced a resolution recognizing the 250th anniversary of the Postal Service. [S. Res. 337](#) was introduced with eight other bipartisan co-sponsors: Sens. Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), Maggie Hassan (D-NH), Thom Tillis (R-NC), Elissa Slotkin (D-MI), Mike Crapo (R-ID), Susan Collins (R-ME) and Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH).

The resolution recognizes the historical significance of the Postal Service, honors the public servants who have served and continue to serve the agency, and invites the public to commemorate this milestone by recognizing a postal employee, sending a letter, or purchasing stamps.

“NALC thanks Ranking Member Peters and Sen. Sullivan for leading this resolution that celebrates one of the most important and beloved institutions in America, the Postal Service,” NALC President Brian L. Renfroe said.

“Letter carriers have always been what make the Postal Service strong, carrying out its universal service obligation every day. On this anniversary, NALC members should be proud of everything we’ve accomplished since the establishment of our nation’s post office. Let this commemoration reignite our passion, energy and unity to keep fighting like hell for letter carriers for the next 250 years and beyond.”



# House adjourns for August recess with Senate set to adjourn Aug. 1; schedule district meetings with your members of Congress

Jul 24, 2025

The House has adjourned for the summer August recess with the Senate set to head to their home states on Aug. 1. Both chambers are scheduled to reconvene on Sept. 2.

Following a busy few months, in which the budget reconciliation package finally became law, September is already shaping up to be a busy month in Washington. Congress is expected to begin the reconciliation process for Fiscal Year 2026 starting this fall, meaning NALC members must be ready to fight.

The August recess is an excellent time to engage with your members of Congress while they are home in their districts. Attend a town hall or reach out to the district office to schedule a meeting to educate your legislators on NALC's priority issues.

You can find your House representative's contact information [here](#) and your Senators' contact information [here](#).

[Click here](#) to familiarize yourself with NALC's priority legislation, check if your members of Congress are cosponsoring NALC's bills, and access fact sheets.

When meeting with your members of Congress, make sure they know who we are. There is so much to highlight.

- 30 percent of letter carriers are veterans.
- We serve as eyes and ears of American communities, keeping them safer and often being the first to step in and help when something is wrong.
- We are community leaders, leading the annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive.
- We uphold the universal service obligation by getting the job done every day, whatever the challenges.

Regardless of whom you meet with and what state or district they represent, their constituents undoubtedly rely on the universal service letter carriers dutifully provide. When members of Congress hear directly from you about your work, who we are, what issues matter to letter carriers, and why a strong Postal Service is essential, our impact grows.

If you have any questions, [please contact](#) your NALC legislative and political organizer.

July 23, 2025

## NALC President Brian L. Renfroe testifies before Congress on urgent need to protect letter carriers from crime

Today, NALC President Brian L. Renfroe testified before the House Subcommittee on Government Operations at a hearing on mail theft and crime.

In his opening remarks, President Renfroe set the tone with a clear message. "To protect America's mail, we must start with protecting the people who deliver it," he said. While once rare, Renfroe explained that these crimes and assaults have been on the rise in recent years. He urged Congress to pass the bipartisan Protect Our Letter Carriers Act (H.R. 1065/S. 463), referencing the five letter carriers who have been tragically murdered on the job in the last few years, the thousands of other letter carriers who have been victims of crime, and the alarmingly low conviction rates for these cases.

Regarding the Postal Service's Project Safe Delivery plan, Renfroe said NALC supported the initiative and the work of the Postal Inspection Service, but that "the scope of the problem has severely outgrown their capacity to protect us."

"We can't wait for another letter carrier to be murdered or more violent federal crimes against civil servants who serve the American people every day to decide it's finally time for legislative action. The time is now," he said.

Renfroe reminded the subcommittee that this is "not a partisan or political issue" or "a finger pointing exercise or blame game."

"It is a problem that everyone should recognize and be 100 percent behind addressing. No one wants violent crime in their neighborhood," he added.

Renfroe emphasized that protecting letter carriers must be a top priority. "Letter carriers want nothing more than to serve our people, but we must be protected. And the people that commit these crimes must be arrested, prosecuted, convicted, and sentenced."

The subcommittee also included witnesses Brendan Donahue, Inspector in Charge at the U.S. Postal Inspection Service; Julius Rothstein, Deputy Inspector General at the U.S. Postal Service Office of the Inspector General; Frank Albergo, President of the Postal Police Officers Association; and Anthony Holloway, Chief of Police at the St. Petersburg, Florida Police Department.

Overall, questions focused on types of mail theft, what is driving an increase in these crimes, the role of postal police officers, Project Safe Delivery, and what more can be done to protect mail and postal employees.

In his opening remarks, Chairman Pete Sessions (R-TX) recognized that criminals have increasingly targeted letter carriers, referencing an 845 percent increase in letter carrier robberies from 2019 to 2023.

In his questioning, Ranking Member Kweisi Mfume (D-MD) emphasized that mail theft is about more than data. "It's also about human beings who are on the other side of the equation. We refer to them as letter carriers. They work day in and day out to make sure that the service that we've come to take for granted is still there," he said.

Ranking Member Mfume then asked Renfroe how the current postal lock and key system works. Renfroe explained the issues with the current method, referenced the Postal Service's modernization efforts, and explained that passing the bipartisan Protect Our Letter Carriers Act is the most efficient way to modernize all postal locks and keys.

President Renfroe's full testimony is available [here](#).

July 17, 2025

## Anti-privatization resolution reaches bipartisan majority in House

Today, H. Res. 70 reached a bipartisan majority in the House with 218 representatives—202 Democrats and 16 Republicans—co-sponsoring. The resolution calls on Congress to take all appropriate measures to ensure the Postal Service remains an independent agency of the federal government and not subject to privatization.

"Reaching a House majority sends a clear message that any privatization proposal would be dead on arrival in Congress," NALC President Brian L. Renfroe said. "This milestone comes at a critical time, only a few days after the new postmaster general started his tenure."

"This majority threshold should remind the administration, private shippers, and members of Congress who have not yet signed on that Americans have no appetite for privatization. They trust the Postal Service and their letter carriers. They want the agency to succeed. That starts with ensuring USPS remains an independent, non-taxpayer-funded, nonpartisan agency."

While we celebrate this achievement, there is still work to do to increase House co-sponsors and reach majority support for the Senate companion resolution, [S. Res. 147](#). [Click here](#) to take action.

“Letter carriers should be proud of their hard work to reach majority support in the House,” President Renfro said. “Let’s work together to continue that effort in the Senate and keep fighting like hell to reach a majority in both chambers.”



## 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: 170 (146 Democratic – 24 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: 124 (106 Democratic – 18 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**

### **Improving Access to Workers’ Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act (H.R. 3170)**

*Status: Advanced out of the House Committee on Education and Workforce on June 25*

*Co-sponsors: 17 (10 Democratic – 7 Republican)*

To amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to cover, for purposes of workers’ compensation under such chapter, services by physician assistants and nurse practitioners provided to injured Federal workers, and for other purposes.

**Fact Sheet**

### **Equal COLA Ac (H.R. 491)**

*Status: Introduced by Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-VA) on Jan. 16, 2025*

*Co-sponsors: 60 (59 Democratic – 1 Republican)*

This bill applies a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for annuities paid under the Federal Employees Retirement System that is equal to the increase in inflation, regardless of the amount of the increase.

**Fact Sheet**

### **USPS Shipping Equity Act (H.R. 3011)**

*Status: Introduced by Reps. Dan Newhouse (R-WA) and Suhas Subramanyam (D-VA) on*

April 24, 2025

**Co-sponsors:** 9 (8 Democratic – 1 Republican)

To amend title 18, United States Code, and title 39, United States Code, to provide the United States Postal Service the authority to mail alcoholic beverages, 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:** 231 (210 Democratic – 21 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 bills

### **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:** 11 (10 Democratic – 1 Republican)

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

**Fact sheet**

### **Improving Access to Workers' Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act (S. 3296)**

*Status: Introduced by Sens. Susan Collins (R-ME) and Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)*

**Co-sponsors:** 2 (2 Democratic – 0 Republican)

To amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to cover, for purposes of workers' compensation under such chapter, services by physician assistants and nurse practitioners provided to injured Federal workers, and for other purposes.

**Fact Sheet**

### **Equal COLA Act (S. 624)**

*Status: Introduced by Sen. Alex Padilla (D-CA) on Feb. 18, 2025*

**Co-sponsors:** 15 (13 Democratic – 2 Republican)

This bill applies a cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for annuities paid under the Federal Employees Retirement System that is equal to the increase in inflation, regardless of the amount of the increase.

**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:** 7 (4 Democratic – 3 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**