



House Passes HEROES Act, Now in the Senate

On May 12, lawmakers in the House introduced H.R. 6800, or the **HEROES** (Health and Economic Recovery Omnibus Emergency Solutions) Act. The bill provides emergency funding for various agencies and sectors of the economy. On May 15, this bill PASSED the House by a vote of 208-199. It should not have been that close. More of us contacting our members would have improved the Yea votes.

The bill was received in the Senate on May 20 and read into the record on May 21 and placed on the calendar. On June 1st, it was read a second time and placed on the Senate Legislation Calendar under General Orders. No further action has been taken as of June 22nd.

Among the postal provisions included in the legislation are:

- A \$25 billion cash infusion for the USPS (subject to oversight/audit by the USPS Office of Inspector General)
- Modification of the CARES Act \$10 billion loan provision so that the USPS loan would be subject to terms and conditions of the existing note agreement between USPS and the Federal Financing Bank, thereby easing previous restrictions on the line of credit
- Promotion of vote by mail via absentee ballots with prepaid postage by state/local governments
- Work performed by USPS employees deemed “essential work”

Check this Website periodically as your State President Brenda Gibbs and I are trying to keep the legislative information updated regularly.

Section 8 of the US Constitution specifically grants to Congress the Power to establish Post Offices. Many members of Congress today read into

that document that they also have the right to de-establish and then privatize the post office.

Without a proper stimulus package—something that was freely given to many corporations—the Postal Service will run out of money by summertime.

There has never been a more important moment to tell your Senators how disappointed you are that they have chosen to neglect a critical agency and its essential employees during this crisis. Tell them that the Postal Service is and will continue to be crucial to fighting the pandemic by delivering critical medications, testing kits, and other necessities to Americans across the country.

We anticipate that there may be more stimulus money later, but it is critical that we all contact our Senators and let them know how we feel. Please help us by calling your Senators and passing this message to all rural carriers across the nation.

Senator Richard Burr
217 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-3154

Senator Thom Tillis
113 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510
Phone: 202-224-6342

Help save **YOUR** job and the jobs of over 600,000 of our Postal brothers and sisters. Contact your Senator.

Van Heath, Legislative Rep.