

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers



President's Report

January 2012

It seems like everything is on hold. Is Congress waiting to see if postal managers will come to their senses and start making sound business decisions – or is management waiting for Congress to agree on some common sense changes that will remove unreasonable financial burdens? Will one happen without the other? Who moves first? Or is it just too much to expect from either?

Some expect HR 2309 to come to the floor of the House for a vote. Besides the original sponsor of the bill, it has a grand total of 1 (that's one) co-sponsor. If HR 2309 does come up for a vote and passes, some of the representatives who signed on as co-sponsor of HR 1351 will have voted for it. Any of the 228 co-sponsors of HR 1351 who votes for HR 2309 is not being sincere in their public support of HR 1351. We shall see who in Congress truly supports a fair and reasonable solution to the problems facing the Postal Service. By the way, the Senate version (S 1625) also has a grand total of 1 (yes, just one) co-sponsor besides the person who introduced it.

There are other bills in Congress that go further in assuring the financial well-being of the Postal Service. It's time for our leaders to fix the problems that they have created.

HR 3591 and S 1853 should come to the floors of Congress for a vote.

There is no cost to tax payers, there is no bail out, and it would save hundreds of thousands of good jobs – not only postal jobs, but jobs in mail related industries. This should not be a problem. Our economy should not be subjected to another unnecessary loss of employment.

Check www.nalc.org for the latest legislative updates.

Don't forget to make your donation to COLCPE. It's job insurance pure and simple. Make the phone call when you get the e-activist alert; make your voice heard, if we don't speak up for support of the Postal Service, who will? Someone in management?

In closing – for those of you who are in offices being reviewed in the second part of the JARAP – I hope you are ready. You should have the information to respond to the questions about your assignment, your input can make a difference in getting a fair evaluation. Again, if you don't speak up, who will? Your supervisor?

In Unionism,

Jim Beach

President

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO

www.iowalettercarriers.org