

Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers



President's Report

March 2022

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

The long-awaited repeal of the prefunding mandate for retiree health benefits, which was passed in 2006, has now successfully passed the U.S. Senate, and U.S. House of Representatives, and awaits President Biden's signature! The huge bipartisan support was a surprise in the Senate, with 79 Senators voting "Aye" to pass the legislation. The other pleasant surprise was that both of our Senators jumped on board to support the bill, joining our 4 members of the House of Representatives giving it a 100% Iowa support. It was not only a pleasant surprise, but also encouraging to see that our members of congress are approachable, and open to discuss the wants, and needs of their constituents. Make sure to reach out to these individuals and say thank you for their vote.

Our union has been embattled since 2006 to end the unfair prefunding mandate. Who would have thought when we started our movement to end this threat to destroy the USPS, that it would take 15 years. But, our union fought long and hard, year after year, and legislative session after legislative session, to bring about the change we needed to protect the USPS, our jobs, and our customers. We have had much support from not only the other postal unions, but also our union brothers, and sisters from both the public and private sector. Nationally the AFL-CIO, and here in Iowa the IFL-CIO have been a major source of support. Two of the first congratulations I received were from the IFL President, Charles Wishman, and Secretary/Treasurer Peter Hird. I have been invited year after year to speak on the State of The USPS at their Convention, and Legislative Conference. Their support, and the support of the members of the IFL across the state has been outstanding. So, I say thank you to all for your support throughout the years.

The only problem I have going forward now is, what do we work on next? The Postal Fairness Legislation has been a daily challenge for what seems an eternity. My hope for the future is making our jobs more secure, being fully staffed, and giving the public the better service, they deserve. Looking forward to seeing you all at Spring Training! Take care, and God Bless!

In Solidarity,

Herb Copley, President
Iowa State Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO
www.iowalettercarriers.org