



A bold voice for transportation workers

June 17, 2014

Reject Efforts to Fix the Highway Trust Fund by Cutting U.S. Mail Service

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the undersigned affiliated unions of the Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO (TTD), we write to express our strong opposition to eliminating Saturday mail delivery service as a condition of fixing the impending shortfall in the Highway Trust Fund. This careless and ideologically driven attack on the employees at the United States Postal Service (USPS) should be a non-starter as it fails to offer a bipartisan plan to fund America's immediate and longer-term surface transportation needs.

As unions that represent workers in every mode of transportation, we understand the need to secure new revenues to upgrade and expand our system and infrastructure. We also agree that allowing default of the Highway Trust Fund would devastate critically needed highway and transit projects across the country, idle thousands of construction and transit workers, and impose self-inflicted damage to our still fragile economy. But seeking to eliminate Saturday delivery would only serve to delay and distract policy makers from considering legitimate proposals that are necessary to avoid a summer default. In fact, this misguided plan has already been condemned by key Senate and House leaders of both parties that are otherwise committed to funding our surface transportation needs.

The Postal Service would be earning profits if not for a congressionally imposed mandate from 2006 that forces the agency to prefund decades of future retiree health costs in advance. In absence of this ridiculous mandate, which no other company or agency faces, there would be no talk of a future "bailout" of the Postal Service. We should not have to choose between transit systems and decent highways and six-day delivery from the Postal Service. Slowing mail delivery and weakening the Postal Service will not solve our infrastructure crisis. However, eliminating Saturday delivery does come with one guarantee: *it will kill jobs and stunt economic growth.* The U.S. mailing industry supports 8 million jobs and represents 7 percent of GDP. Moving to five-day delivery will eliminate 80,000 good-paying jobs.

The fact remains that the USPS achieved an operating profit of \$600 million for 2013 and is hiring and entering into successful partnerships with businesses like Amazon.com. Eliminating Saturday delivery would needlessly undercut these efforts and has no place in a debate over the solvency of the Highway Trust Fund.

Transportation Trades Department, AFL-CIO

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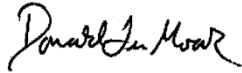
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Edward Wytkind, President / Larry I. Willis, Secretary-Treasurer



We urge you to oppose any effort to fund the Highway Trust Fund through cutting Saturday mail delivery and instead pursue a bipartisan solution to avoid default. We stand ready to work with you towards this goal and on efforts to responsibly meet our nation's transportation needs.

Sincerely,



Lee Moak
President
Air Line Pilots Association



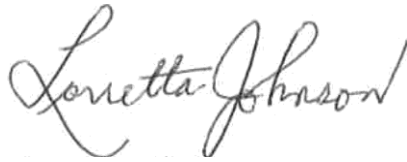
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International President
Amalgamated Transit Union



J. David Cox
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American Federation of Government
Employees



Lee Saunders
President
American Federation of State, County and
Municipal Employees



Lorretta Johnson
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American Federation of Teachers



Sara Nelson
International President
Association of Flight Attendants-CWA



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American Train Dispatchers Association



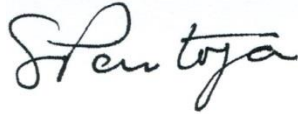
Dan Pickett
President
Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen



Larry Cohen
President
Communications Workers of America



Harold Schaitberger
General President
International Association of Fire Fighters



Sito Pantoja
General Vice President
International Association of Machinists
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Newton Jones
International President
International Brotherhood of Boilermakers,
Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers
and Helpers



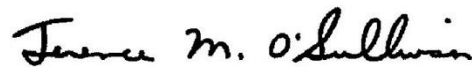
Edwin D. Hill
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International Brotherhood of Electrical
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Harold Daggett
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Terence O'Sullivan
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Director of Railroad and Shipyard Workers
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SMART-Transportation Division



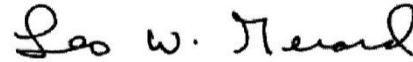
Robert Scardelletti
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Transportation Communications Union/IAM



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