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Resolution To Rescind Cuts To, And Restore Service Of, Overnight First-Class Mail Delivery By The U.S. Postal Service

WHEREAS the U.S. Postal Service changed delivery standards on January 5, 2015, eliminating next-day mail delivery of normal first class mail; and

WHEREAS letters, invoices, bill payments, medicine, Netflix, and other mail that had taken a single day to be delivered locally, will now take a minimum of two days; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Postal Service has recovered financially from the Great Recession, with revenue increasing for seven straight quarters, and an operating profit since October 2012 (despite the paper loss from the congressionally imposed "pre-funding" of retiree health benefits that no other employer is required to do); and

WHEREAS the change in delivery standards allows the closure of mail processing operations in Tacoma, Wenatchee, Redmond and 79 other sites nationwide, impacting 15,000 workers and eliminating union-wage jobs; and

WHEREAS Washington elections are affected – it will take an additional day or more to get final count on contested elections – and the proposal to allow ballots received by Election Day to be counted would disenfranchise many voters if adopted; and

WHEREAS Ruth Y. Goldway, Postal Regulatory Commissioner since 1998, has criticized the service cuts as threatening "the very integrity and concept of Universal Service"; and

WHEREAS 59 U.S. Representatives, including Suzan DelBene from Washington State, have co-sponsored HR 784, the Protect Overnight Delivery Act to restore previous service standards;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that this body shall go on record as supporting any and all campaigns and legislative efforts to restore overnight first-class mail delivery; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body shall communicate this sentiment to the appropriate federal legislators, the Postal Board of Governors, the Postal Regulatory Commission and the Postmaster General.

Approved on March 4th, 2015 by the 30th District Democrats.

Tim Burns

Tim Burns, Chair