



H.R. 22 Passes – NAPUS Applauds Efforts of Postal Champions

On behalf of the nation's 27,000 postmasters, the National Association of Postmasters of the U.S. (NAPUS) communicated to the House sponsors of H.R. 22, the Postal Enhancement and Accountability Act, congratulations on the House of Representative's overwhelming stamp of approval of the legislation. For over a decade, NAPUS has worked closely with Rep. John McHugh (R-NY) in promoting responsible comprehensive postal reform. In addition to Rep. McHugh, NAPUS conveyed kudos to Government Reform Committee Chairman Tom Davis (R-VA), Ranking Democrat Henry Waxman (D-CA), Representative Danny Davis (D-IL) and their dedicated staffs' who worked on passing the measure.

Last night's 410-20 vote in support of the bill demonstrates that the House of Representatives understands the need for postal reform. Moreover, it aptly illustrates that Congress recognizes the need to relieve the Postal Service from the unfair financial burdens resulting from continuing to overpay into the CSRS escrow account, and being forced to cover the CSRS military retiree credit for its current and former employees, a sum that the U.S. Treasury formerly paid.

President Olihovik played a pivotal role in NAPUS' successful and effective nationwide grassroots mobilization effort to defeat three amendments that, if passed, would have undermined that careful balance integral to H.R. 22, jeopardized the sanctity of the U.S. mail, and nullified the financial relief provided by the bill to the USPS. Olihovik along with NAPUS postmaster activists called their own Members of Congress and key Representatives to oppose these amendments, and vote in favor of a "clean" H.R. 22. In fact, a NAPUS flyer opposing one of the amendments was distributed by the Government Reform Committee leadership to Members of Congress on the floor of the House of Representatives.

NAPUS President Wally Olihovik (postmaster of Nashua, NH) stated, "NAPUS is pleased that H.R. 22 is now in our rear view mirror. Now, postmasters are looking ahead to work with Senate postal champions Susan Collins and Tom Carper as they proceed in moving S. 662 to the floor of the Senate." President Olihovik affirmed that, "It is essential to the future viability of the USPS that the CSRS relief remains in the legislation that reaches the President's desk. In addition, I believe that the Senate and House must work out their differences to address and balance the desires of the mailing industry and the needs of the loyal employees who work for the U.S. Postal Service."

For more information and analysis, view the *e-NAPUS Legislative Newsletter* (http://www.napus.org/govrelations/enapus_newsletter.htm) on Friday, July 29.