

# GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

## Senate confirms Ketanji Brown Jackson to Supreme Court

Apr 07, 2022

In a 53-47 vote, the Senate confirmed Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson to the Supreme Court. Jackson's historic confirmation will make her the first Black woman to serve on the nation's highest court. She will replace Justice Stephen Breyer, who is retiring this summer after serving 28 years on the Supreme Court.

All 50 Democrats and three Republicans, Senators Susan Collins (R-ME), Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), and Mitt Romney (R-UT), voted to confirm Jackson on Thursday.

Jackson is a graduate of Harvard University and Harvard Law School. Prior to Jackson's Supreme Court nomination in Feb. 2022, President Biden nominated her to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit, and she was confirmed with bipartisan support. In 2012, President Obama nominated Jackson to be a district court judge for the U.S. District for D.C. She was confirmed with bipartisan support in 2013. She has also served as the Vice Chair of the U.S. Sentencing Commission. Jackson spent much of her career as a public defender, and she will be the first former public defender to serve on the Supreme Court. Jackson began her career serving as a law clerk to Justice Breyer.

"NALC congratulates Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson on her historic confirmation," NALC President Fredric Rolando said. "She brings exceptional qualifications and legal experience to her new role as a Supreme Court Justice, and we commend her commitment to public service."

[Click here](#) to read a joint statement from labor union leaders in support of Jackson's nomination.

## President Biden signs Postal Service Reform Act into law

Apr 06, 2022



Today, President Biden signed the Postal Service Reform Act of 2022 (H.R. 3076) into law. The president's signature comes after the bill passed with massive bipartisan majorities in the House in February and in the Senate in March.

Annette Taylor, an NALC member who delivered mail for 32 years, introduced President Biden at the signing ceremony. Taylor, who served in the Air Force for eight years before beginning her career as a letter carrier, previously served as the president, vice president and recording secretary of Annapolis, MD Branch 651. She is the current vice president of the Maryland State Association of Letter Carriers.



“NALC is proud to have contributed to the efforts over the last 12 years that resulted in this bipartisan legislation that brings us together today,” Taylor said. “This legislation will help position the USPS to provide the service that the American people deserve. Mr. President, the Postal Service is an essential facilitator of our democracy and our economy. We know there is more to do to secure its long-term viability, but today is a huge step forward. My union stands ready to assist you.”

“With this bill, we're repealing the pre-funding mandate and setting the Postal Service on a more sustainable and stable financial footing,” President Biden said. “We're guaranteeing that the mail will continue to be delivered six days a week. And the bill increases transparency by requiring the Postal Service to develop an online public dashboard updated weekly with local and national service performance data. Today, we enshrine in law our recognition that the Postal Service is fundamental to our economy, to our democracy, to our health, and the very sense of who we are as a nation.”

“After 12 years of fighting for meaningful postal reform, NALC is gratified to see President Biden sign this bill into law,” NALC President Fredric Rolando said. “I would like to thank every NALC member who helped us get here. Your solidarity and activism were instrumental in this bill's path to becoming law.

“I would also like to commend the bipartisan work on this bill that was led by Chairwoman Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), Ranking Member James Comer (R-KY), Chairman Gary Peters

(D-MI) and Ranking Member Rob Portman (R-OH). This legislation will put the Postal Service in a better position to grow and adapt to the evolving needs of America's households and businesses.

"Today, we celebrate this historic victory for letter carriers, the Postal Service and all Americans who depend on our universal service. We look forward to continuing working with members of Congress and the Biden Administration on reforms that will further strengthen the Postal Service and improve the work and lives of our members."

A video of the signing ceremony is available [here](#).

## Statement of NALC President Fredric Rolando on Senate passage of postal reform

Mar 09, 2022

"America's letter carriers applaud the 79 members of the U.S. Senate who voted to pass the Postal Reform Act last night, following its adoption by the House of Representatives with a massive bipartisan majority in February.

We express our deep gratitude to Sens. Gary Peters (D-MI) and Rob Portman (R-OH), the chair and ranking member of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, for marshalling a huge bipartisan majority for the reform bill and for working with Democrats and Republicans in the House to craft the legislation. H.R. 3076 was a sensible set of reforms that all four corners of Congress could enthusiastically support.

The successful adoption of the bill reflects years of steady work by NALC members and staff to build consensus among postal stakeholders and members of Congress – as well as the overwhelming support of the American people who have long embraced the Postal Service as a national treasure. We thank our fellow postal unions, the mailing industry and postal management for working together on this effort. The resulting legislation, which repeals the unfair prefunding mandate for retiree health benefits put in place in 2006 and secures the continuation of six-day delivery, puts the USPS in a position to grow and adapt to meet the evolving needs of America's households and businesses.

Looking ahead, we will continue our efforts to ensure that postal management properly staffs the city carrier craft so that we may once again provide the highest quality of service to our customers throughout the country. And we also look forward to working with the Biden Administration to pursue further administrative and legislative reforms to achieve fair and effective postal pension policies that will further strengthen the agency.

The bill passed last night – with President Biden's anticipated signature – is a giant step forward in the NALC's ongoing efforts to secure a brilliant future for one of America's oldest and most essential institutions."



## NALC Priority Congressional Bills and Resolutions

Below are bills of note for NALC that have been introduced in the 117th Congress. This page will be updated regularly as bills are introduced.

### House Bills

#### **Postal Reform Act of 2021 - H.R. 3076**

*Status: Introduced by Reps. Carolyn Maloney (D-NY) and James Comer (R-KY) and ordered to be reported to the House of Representatives on May 13, 2021*

*Co-sponsors: 102 (58 Democrats – 44 Republicans)*

To provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

#### **USPS Fairness Act - H.R. 695**

*Status: Introduced February 2, 2021 by Reps. Peter DeFazio (D-OR), Tom Reed (R-NY), Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Collin Allred (D-TX)*

*Co-sponsors: 277 (218 Democrats – 59 Republicans)*

To repeal the requirement that the United States Postal Service prepay future retirement benefits.

#### **Social Security Fairness Act - H.R. 82**

*Status: Introduced January 4, 2021*

*Co-sponsors: 245 (186 Democrats – 59 Republicans)*

To repeal provisions that reduce Social Security benefits for individuals who receive other benefits, such as a pension from a state or local government.

## House Resolutions

### **House Resolution 109 (H. Res. 109) – Door Delivery**

*Status: Introduced by Reps. Stephanie Murphy (D-FL) and David Joyce (R-OH)*

*Co-sponsors: 154 (126 Democrats – 28 Republicans)*

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Postal Service should take all appropriate measures to ensure the continuation of door delivery for all business and residential customers.

### **House Resolution 47 (H. Res. 47) – Anti-privatization**

*Status: Introduced by Reps. Stephen Lynch (D-MA) and Rodney Davis (R-IL)*

*Co-sponsors: 187 (164 Democrats – 23 Republicans)*

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should take all appropriate measures to ensure that the United States Postal Service remains an independent establishment of the Federal Government and is not subject to privatization.

### **House Resolution 114 (H. Res. 114) - Six-Day Delivery**

*Status: Introduced by Rep. Gerald Connolly (D-VA)*

*Co-sponsors: 157 (98 Democrats – 59 Republicans)*

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Postal Service should take all appropriate measures to ensure the continuation of its 6-day mail delivery service.

### **House Resolution 119 (H. Res. 119) - Service Standards**

*Status: Introduced by Rep. David McKinley (R-WV)*

*Co-sponsors: 138 (118 Democrats – 20 Republicans)*

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States Postal Service should take all appropriate measures to restore service standards in effect as of July 1, 2012.

## Senate Bills

### **Postal Reform Act of 2021 - S. 1720**

*Status: Introduced by Sen. Gary Peters (D-MI) and Rob Portman (R-OH) on May 19, 2021*

*Co-sponsors: 27 (14 Democrats – 12 Republicans - 1 Independent)*

To provide stability to and enhance the services of the United States Postal Service, and for other purposes.

**USPS Fairness Act - S. 145**

*Status: Introduced by Sen. Steve Daines (R-MT) and Brian Schatz (D-HI)*

*Co-sponsors: 10 (5 Democrats – 5 Republicans)*

To repeal the requirement that the United States Postal Service prepay future retirement benefits.