

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Legislative Updates

Kubayanda confirmed to Postal Regulatory Commission

Dec 08, 2021

On Dec. 7, the Senate unanimously confirmed Michael Kubayanda to serve as a Commissioner of the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC). Kubayanda, who has served as the chairman of the commission since Jan. 2021, was renominated by President Biden and has been a member of the PRC since 2019. His new term will expire on Nov. 26, 2026.

“I am humbled and honored to have the opportunity to continue to work alongside my fellow commissioners and the talented staff of the commission,” Chairman Kubayada said. “The commission’s work is fundamental at a time of great challenge and opportunity for the nation’s mail system.”

Prior to his service on the PRC, Kubayanda served as a board member and privacy officer for a digital health startup. He also previously worked with the USPS Office of Inspector General and as counsel to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

The PRC is the independent body that exercises regulatory oversight over the Postal Service. Its responsibilities include preventing anticompetitive practices, promoting accountability, adjudicating complaints, setting postal rates and helping oversee delivery service standards. The PRC has five commissioners, who are nominated by the president for six-year terms and confirmed by the Senate.

“NALC congratulates Michael Kubayanda on this important confirmation,” NALC President Fredric Rolando said. “We look forward to his continued leadership at the Postal Regulatory Commission.”

Congress funds government through Feb. 18 avoiding shutdown

Dec 03, 2021

Thursday night, Congress passed a continuing resolution that will fund the government until Feb. 18. House members voted 221-212 and Senators voted 69-28, which sent the bill to

President Biden's desk. Lawmakers narrowly avoided a government shutdown by passing this legislation before the Dec. 3 deadline.

This short-term fix includes funding to sustain federal agencies until the Feb. 18 deadline, \$7 billion to help resettle refugees from Afghanistan and \$1.6 billion to assist migrant children who arrive at the border without a parent.

The new Feb. 18 deadline gives lawmakers time to focus on moving the Build Back Better Act through Congress and raising the debt limit, which will likely expire by the end of the month.

NALC will update letter carriers on any future action.

Dan Tangherlini and Derek Kan nominated to Postal Service BOG

Nov 19, 2021

Today, President Biden [nominated Dan Tangherlini and Derek Kan](#) to serve on the U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors (BOG). If confirmed by the Senate, Tangherlini and Kan would serve on the BOG until 2028. The nominees would replace BOG members John Barger and Ron Bloom, the current BOG chairman.

Tangherlini, a Democratic nominee, currently serves as the managing director of Emerson Collective, a private philanthropic firm. Until 2017, he was the president of SeamlessDocs Federal, a technology firm that focused on simplifying government forms and data collection. His previous government roles include serving as the administrator of the General Services Administration under President Obama and serving as chief financial officer at the Department of Treasury from 2009 to 2013. From 2006 to 2009, he served the District of Columbia as city administrator and deputy mayor. He also served in the management of the Biden Transition team with responsibility for the Postal Service's Agency Review Team.

Kan, a Republican nominee, is currently an executive with Deliverr, a California-based e-commerce fulfillment startup company. He previously served as the deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget from July 2020 to December 2020. From 2017 to 2019, he served as the under secretary of transportation for policy. He also served as an Amtrak board member and as a general manager for Lyft. Prior to that, he served as an advisor for Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) and as chief economist for the Senate Republican Policy Committee.

"I look forward to meeting with Mr. Tangherlini and Mr. Kan before their nominations are taken up for approval by the Senate," NALC President Fredric Rolando said. "On behalf of NALC, I want to thank Ron Bloom for his strong support of letter carriers and his exceptional public service to the U.S. Postal Service."

As required by the Postal Reorganization Act, the president nominates the nine-member BOG, which is responsible for overseeing the executive management of USPS. By law, no more than five members can be affiliated with the president's political party. The Senate's

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee will hold confirmation hearings on the two nominees, most likely in early 2022. Before serving, board members must be confirmed by a majority in the Senate.

NALC will update letter carriers when these nominees are considered by the Senate.



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: 241 (183 Democrats – 57 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: 153 (125 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: 186 (163 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.