



## Congress passes 5-year highway bill

This week, Congress did something unheard of these days: It passed a major law, successfully negotiating and paying for a five-year, \$305-billion surface transportation reauthorization bill. Of particular note for letter carriers, the measure does not use the pay and benefits of federal/postal employees nor postal service cuts to pay for highway spending. [Click here to read more.](#)

## Senate votes to gut Obamacare...again

On Thursday, the Senate passed a budget reconciliation bill aimed at repealing significant portions of the 2010 Affordable Care Act. The reconciliation process has become a tool used to be used to circumvent the Senate threshold needed to break a filibuster. Now Republicans in Congress are trying to use the same process to take health insurance coverage from some 16 million Americans. [Click here to read more.](#)

## Government funding deadline approaches under new house leadership

One month into his new position as Speaker of the House, Rep. Paul Ryan (R-WI) has only days to address how to fund the government beyond Dec. 11. If the House and Senate fail to reach an agreement, lawmakers will be required to advance a continuing resolution (CR) or face another shutdown, which last happened in 2011. [Click here to read more.](#)

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### Resolution tracker

[H.Res. 12](#) (six-day):  
227 co-sponsors  
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[H.Res. 28](#) (door delivery):  
178 co-sponsors  
— [Fact Sheet](#)

[H.Res. 54](#) (service standards):  
223 co-sponsors  
— [Fact Sheet](#)