Bipartisan postal bill released

On March 22, Sens. Tom Carper (D-DE), Jerry Moran (R-KS), Heidi Heitkamp (D-ND) and Claire McCaskill (D-MO) introduced S. 2642, “The Postal Reform Act of 2018,” which incorporates elements of both the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee’s “Collaborative Framework for Modernizing the U.S. Postal Service, Operations, Service and Transparency Act (CFSOPS),” which was introduced during the prior Congress. The senators will use provisions of what is known as Senate Rule 41, which will allow the bill to bypass regular committee action and be placed on the Senate calendar. The bill is the “Dependable Delivery, True Service (DDT-S) Act,” introduced during the prior Congress.

We thank all four senators for their creativity in developing a variation of the Medicare-based approach to postal finance. NALC President Fredric Rolando said, “We are all aware of the staggering number of people in need.”

Critical issues included by the bill for NALC:

• Exempting liquor and tobacco from postal delivery.
• Securing elimination of the moratorium on the sale of stamps for other than postcard use.
• Securing delivery of non-competitive products to end the requirement that USPS does not lose money on non-competitive products.
• Securing recognition of employees as postal employees.

The bill’s companion legislation in the House was H.R. 957, and Sen. Carper’s “Collaborative Framework for Modernizing the U.S. Postal Service, Operations, Service and Transparency Act (CFSOPS),” which was introduced during the prior Congress. The senators will use provisions of what is known as Senate Rule 41, which will allow the bill to bypass regular committee action and be placed on the Senate calendar. The bill is the “Dependable Delivery, True Service (DDT-S) Act,” introduced during the prior Congress.

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