H. Res. 277 expresses the sense of Congress that the Postal Service should take all appropriate measures to restore the plan to ensure a safe working environment for USPS employees, and how it is combating mail theft and crime, for America Plan" to seek updates from Postmaster General Louis DeJoy regarding implementation of the 10-year final and binding decision on the contents of a new national agreement. The parties would select a neutral arbitrator for administrative action on this issue, which complements the repeal of the pre-funding mandate and other Postal Regulatory Commission that directs the Office of Personnel Management to accurately value USPS’s CSRS Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) pensions. This was a reference to the Segal Report, a 2010 report from the NALC is committed to using every available resource to address the increase in attacks on letter carriers, including engaging the public, coordinating with law enforcement, pursuing legislation and seeking strategies such as enforcement measures and protective video technology that will better protect letter carriers. Overall, DeJoy did not offer any specific updates on USPS’s plan to protect letter carriers and committed to getting back to the Senate committee with more information, as requested in the letter.

In addition to concerns around the increase in assaults on letter carriers, lawmakers also questioned DeJoy on USPS’s plan to do protecting postal employees. They detailed that a large number of letter carriers and postal workers have reached out directly to their offices to raise concerns, and legislators pointed to specific cases of the letter carriers who were injured on the job, facing exposure to dangerous and hot or cold temperatures, being affected by lack of staffing and high turnover, and more. DeJoy recognized these issues and said that the Delivering for America plan is meant to improve these conditions and address these concerns, but that financial limitations present a significant challenge in responding to these issues.

NALC is committed to using every available resource to address the increase in attacks on letter carriers, including engaging the public, coordinating with law enforcement, pursuing legislation and seeking strategies such as enforcement measures and protective video technology that will better protect letter carriers. On the issue of Postal Service finances, several lawmakers and DeJoy recognized the increased financial stability that USPS has seen over the last year following the passing of the bipartisan PSRA. However, many members questioned DeJoy on the agency’s finances. Specifically, Rep. Gary Palmer (R-AL) questioned DeJoy about whether he expects the Postal Service to become profitable in the future.

DeJoy pointed out that the 10-year plan accounts for executive action on the Postal Service’s obligations to Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) pensions. This was a reference to the Segal Report, a 2010 report from the Postal Regulatory Commission that directs the Office of Personnel Management to accurately value USPS’s CSRS pensions as of the present time. Meanwhile, the agency is implementing its new contract, which subjects its pension obligations to the Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) and CSRS investment model for the rest of the federal government and asked whether an alternative investment model could be considered. NALC is advocating for administrative action on this issue, which complements the repeal of the pre-funding mandate and other financial victories from the PSRA.

Palmer also questioned DeJoy on the Postal Service’s investment strategy regarding the $39 billion in employee pension and stock options currently on the Treasury’s books. Palmer questioned the Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) and CSRS investment model for the rest of the federal government and asked whether an alternative investment model could be considered. NALC is advocating for administrative action on this issue, which complements the repeal of the pre-funding mandate and other financial victories from the PSRA.

DeJoy acknowledged that if the $39 billion on the Treasury Department’s books were invested differently, USPS’s investment funds could more than double. DeJoy noted that any change to the existing investment strategy would have to be approved through congressional legislation.

NALC has long advocated for recalibration of Postal Service pension liabilities by the White House and will continue to do so. With regards to investment, NALC is encouraged to support congressional interest in a pension reform package and will work with lawmakers to pursu...