

# NALC endorses Harris-Walz

**O**n the second day of the 73rd Biennial Convention in Boston, delegates voted overwhelmingly to endorse Vice President Kamala Harris for president. The endorsement came on the same day Vice President Harris selected Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz as her running mate.

“NALC proudly endorses the Harris-Walz ticket, and we will do all in our power to ensure that Kamala Harris is the next president of the United States,” President Brian L. Renfroe said to a standing ovation from delegates following the endorsement vote.

Vice President Harris and Gov. Walz both have strong labor ties and proven records that support the Postal Service, federal workers, and the entire labor movement. With the presidential election just a few weeks away, it is important for all letter carriers to know the background of NALC endorsed candidates who give us the best opportunity to advance pro-letter carrier policies. Below is a brief history of Harris and Walz’s background.

## Kamala Harris

Vice President Harris is a native of Oakland, CA. She started her career as a local prosecutor and was elected district attorney of San Francisco in 2004. In 2010, she was elected attorney general of California. She was reelected in 2014 and served until she was elected to the Senate in 2017. In 2020, President Biden selected her as his running mate. Harris made history when she was sworn in as vice president in 2021. She is the first woman, Black and South Asian American to serve in the country’s second-highest office.

Vice President Harris has played a crucial role in one of the most pro-labor administrations in modern history.

As vice president, she:

- Continues to lead the Biden-Harris administration’s voting rights task force to increase voter access and fight voter suppression by promoting the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and the Freedom to Vote Act, which promote nationwide, no-excuse mail-in voting.
- Cast the tie-breaking vote in the Senate for the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which established an Emergency Federal Employee Leave fund for federal and postal employees during the COVID-19 pandemic, expanded the child tax credit, saved millions of workers’ pensions, and helped lift the country out of the pandemic-induced recession.
- Cast the tie-breaking vote in the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, which provided \$3 billion for the Postal Service’s vehicle fleet and the necessary infrastructure and sparked massive investments in green energy and manufacturing jobs.
- Along with President Biden enacted the Postal Service Reform Act of 2022, which repealed the crushing pre-funding mandate, codified six-day delivery and integrated postal employees into Medicare.
- Co-chaired the White House Task Force on Worker Organizing and Empowerment, which recommended promoting union organizing for federal and private-sector workers.

As a senator from 2017 to 2021, Vice President Harris:

- Supported the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act and the Freedom to Negotiate Act, which would

expand organizing and collective-bargaining rights in the private and public sectors respectively.

- Led advocacy for the Postal Service Emergency Assistance Act to provide the Postal Service with \$25 billion during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Served on the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and supported a financially stable Postal Service and held those nominated to serve on the USPS Board of Governors and Postal Regulatory Commission to the highest standard.
- Walked the picket line with striking union members.

As a prosecutor, district attorney and attorney general, she:

- Defended working people by standing up to big banks that were targeting struggling homeowners following the 2008 financial crisis.
- Established an environmental justice unit.
- Remained committed to the rule of law and keeping California citizens safe.

## Tim Walz

Gov. Walz is a veteran, union member, teacher and lifelong public servant. Born in West Point, NE, he enlisted in the Army National Guard at age 17 and served for 24 years. He also worked as a high school teacher and coach until he was elected to Congress in 2006. He represented Minnesota’s 1st Congressional District from 2007 to 2019, when he was sworn in as Minnesota’s governor following his election in 2018. He was reelected as governor in 2022.

During his two terms as governor, six terms in Congress, and years of

experience as a union member, Gov. Walz has an extensive record supporting working people and their families.

As Minnesota's governor, Walz:

- Enacted legislation guaranteeing paid family and medical leave and mandating paid sick days.
- Expanded voting rights by enacting legislation that implemented automatic voter registration, pre-registration for teens, and a permanent absentee voter list for vote-by-mail ballots.
- Barred employers from holding anti-union captive audience meetings.
- Enacted a bipartisan infrastructure package that included projects to create good jobs.
- Lowered the cost of insulin to \$35 per month.

As a member of Congress, Walz:

- Served on the House Veterans Affairs Committee, working his way up to ranking member in the 115th Congress.
- Supported legislation to raise the minimum wage.
- Supported the Affordable Care Act.

Vice President Harris and Gov. Walz's backgrounds and histories prove that they are committed to fighting for working people and protecting and strengthening our democracy. They stand for the rule of law, a strong middle class, and a better future for our country. A Harris-Walz administration provides NALC with the best opportunity to advance our policy agenda that will protect letter carriers' benefits, retirements, and collective bargaining rights, strengthen the Postal Service, and improve the lives



### **General Resolution 19— Endorse Vice-President Kamala Harris for president**

*Whereas:* Vice President Kamala Harris has served the American people with distinction as a local prosecutor, state Attorney General, U.S. Senator and at the side of President Biden in the most pro-union administration since President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, which has consistently demonstrated its support for working people, and

*Whereas:* As a senator, Harris co-sponsored the Protect the Right to Organize Act to strengthen America's labor movement and took the lead in advocating the Postal Service Emergency Assistance Act to provide USPS \$25 billion during the COVID-19 pandemic (measures that the Trump Administration opposed and blocked), and

*Whereas:* The Biden-Harris administration enacted the Postal Service Reform Act of 2021, which mandated six-day delivery in law and repealed the crushing retiree health prefunding mandate, and

*Whereas:* Vice President Harris provided the tie-breaking vote in the Senate for the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 and the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 that helped lift America out of the pandemic-induced recession, save the pensions of millions of workers, cut the cost of prescription drugs for seniors and sparked massive investments in green energy and manufacturing jobs, and

*Whereas:* Former President Trump demonstrated unrelenting hostility to the Postal Service and its employees during his term in office by proposing the privatization of the Postal Service, the repeal of postal employee collective

bargaining rights, deep budget cuts to letter carriers' pensions and health benefits, and by spreading misinformation about the USPS and mail balloting, and

*Whereas:* As the nominee of her party, Harris is committed to strengthening our democracy and protecting voting and civil rights of all Americans in contrast to the authoritarian threat posed by the Project 2025 Plan drafted by former appointees of the Trump administration, which aims to gut the federal government civil service, weaken federal unions like NALC and to retain/expand massive tax cuts for large corporations and the wealthy, and

*Whereas:* Vice President Harris will fight to preserve the rule of law and bolster America's democratic foundations in contrast to an opponent who fomented a riot at the Capitol on January 6, 2021 and then did nothing for hours to stop the attack on the democratic transfer of power—as well as on hundreds of capital police officers, and

*Whereas:* Vice President Harris provides NALC and its members the best opportunity to advance our legislative and policy agenda to strengthen the U.S. Postal Service while safeguarding postal employee rights/interests and ensuring affordable universal service for the American people, be it

*Resolved:* That the NALC gathered at its 73rd Biennial Convention in Boston, Massachusetts, does hereby endorse and will do all in its power to help elect Vice President Kamala Harris the 47th President of the United States.

—Submitted by the Executive Council



of working Americans. “Vice President Harris and Gov. Walz are committed to standing with letter carriers and the entire labor movement,” President Renfroe said. “And NALC is proud to stand with them.”

Following is the resolution passed at the convention to endorse Harris.

### House and Senate outlook

While pollsters are predicting the presidential race to be tight, the battle for control of the House and Senate is expected to be just as competitive. All 435 members of the House are up for reelection, and 220 of those seats are held by Republicans. There are 210 held by Democrats and there are currently four vacancies. More than 50 House members have announced their retirements from both sides of the aisle. The magic number for votes on the floor is 218, so Democrats will need to hold every seat and pick up at least eight seats to win the majority. Republicans cannot lose more than three seats to retain control.

On the Democratic side, 173 seats are considered safe, 27 lean Democratic and 11 are toss-ups. On the Republican side, 189 seats are considered safe, 16 lean Republican and 13 are toss-ups. The 24 toss-up seats are expected to be the most competitive and could go to either party. These races will likely decide which party will control the chamber.

In the Senate, one-third of seats are up for reelection this year. Nine senators have announced their retirement. The current makeup of the Senate is 51 Democrats (including three independents who caucus with the Democrats) and 49 Republicans. Democrats are at a disadvantage in defending the majority. Races for seven seats currently held by Democrats will largely

determine the majority. Three of those have been identified as toss-up races that could go to either party: the open race in Michigan, the seat held by Sherrod Brown (OH), and the seat held by Jon Tester (MT). Four other races are leaning toward the Democrats: Sens. Jacky Rosen (NV), Bob Casey (PA) and Tammy Baldwin (WI), as well as the open seat in Arizona. While the open seat in Maryland is predicted to go to the Democrats, it could flip to the Republicans for the first time in more than 35 years.

If Democrats lose two or more of these, or any other Senate seats they now hold, Republicans will gain control of the chamber. Republican senators who are up for reelection hail from largely safe Republican seats. Sens. Rick Scott (FL) and Ted Cruz (TX) are considered the party’s most vulnerable, but their states are Republican strongholds that Donald Trump won in 2020.

### Ongoing priorities

No matter the outcome in November, NALC has unfinished business. Our ongoing priorities that would bolster the Postal Service’s finances and, in turn, protect wages, benefits and working conditions for letter carriers, are the reasons it is so important to elect a pro-letter carrier Congress and administration.

We need federal officials in the White House and both chambers of Congress who are committed to ensuring the financial stability of the Postal Service.

This includes an administration that will finally address the Postal Service’s unfair pension obligations for Civil Service Retirement System retirees. This misallocation has cost the agency more than \$90 billion, and it is well past time for this problem to be fixed.



Secondly, we need Congress to pass legislation that will allow us to invest our retirement funds differently. These funds are currently invested in low-yield Treasury bonds, and we are missing out on billions in potential annual returns. The Postal Service needs to be able to smartly and responsibly diversify this investment with Thrift Savings Plan-style index funds.

When the Postal Service is financially healthy, operations and service will improve as well. Regardless of who is in the White House, or which party controls the House and Senate, NALC needs leaders who will not point

fingers but who will understand these issues and will commit to acting on the reforms needed to improve the Postal Service’s balance sheet. That is how we preserve letter carriers’ jobs and retirements for years to come, and that is what is at stake in this election.

**Get involved; plan to vote**

Whether you plan to vote by mail, early or on Election Day, it is critical to have a plan to vote. Regardless of whom you choose to support, letter carriers are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the candidates on the ballot and know where they stand on

NALC’s priority issues.

In advance of Election Day, NALC published a comprehensive Voter Guide, available at [nalc.org/vote](http://nalc.org/vote). You can check your voter registration status, browse Labor 2024 volunteer opportunities, and find specific information relevant to your state, including important deadlines and whether current members of Congress have supported NALC’s priority legislation. You also can visit [kamalaharris.com/volunteer](http://kamalaharris.com/volunteer) for more information on in-person and virtual volunteer opportunities.

Voting deadlines are also listed in the chart below.

State	Registration deadline	Deadline to request mail-in ballot	Deadline to return mail-in ballot	Early voting
Alabama	Oct. 21	Oct. 29: By mail; Oct. 31: In person	Nov. 5: By mail; Nov. 4: In person	Not available
Alaska	Oct. 6: Register in person, online or by mail (postmarked by Oct. 6)	Oct. 26: By mail; Nov. 4: Online or fax	Ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 5	Oct. 21-Nov. 5
Arizona	Oct. 7	Oct. 25	Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Oct. 9-Nov. 1
Arkansas	Oct. 7	Oct. 29: By email or mail; Nov. 1: In person	In person: Nov. 1; By mail: Received by 7:30 p.m. CST on Nov. 5	Oct. 21-Nov. 4
California	Oct. 21 or same-day registration and voting Oct. 22-Nov. 5	Mail-in ballots are automatically sent to all voters.	Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Oct. 7-Nov. 5
Colorado	Oct. 28: Online or by mail (postmarked by Oct. 28); Nov. 5: In person	Mail-in ballots are automatically sent to all voters.	Nov. 5	Oct. 21-Nov. 4
Connecticut	Oct. 18: Online or by mail (postmarked by Oct. 18); Nov. 5: In person	Nov. 4	Nov. 5	Oct. 21-Nov. 3
Delaware	Oct. 12	Nov. 1: By mail; Nov. 4: In person	Nov. 5	Oct. 25-Nov. 3
District of Columbia	Oct. 15: Online or by mail; Nov. 5: In person	Mail-in ballots are automatically sent to all voters.	Nov. 5	Oct. 28-Nov. 3
Florida	Oct. 7	Oct. 24	Nov. 5	Oct. 26-Nov. 2

State	Registration deadline	Deadline to request mail-in ballot	Deadline to return mail-in ballot	Early voting
Georgia	Oct. 7	Oct. 25	Nov. 5	Oct. 15-Nov. 1
Hawaii	Oct. 28: Online or by mail; Nov. 5: In person	Mail-in ballots are automatically sent to all voters.	Nov. 5	Oct. 22-Nov. 5
Idaho	Oct. 11: Online or by mail; Nov. 5: In person	Oct. 25	Nov. 5	Oct. 21-Nov. 1
Illinois	Oct. 8: In person; Oct. 20: Online	Oct. 31: By mail or online; Nov. 4: In person	Ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 5	Sept. 26-Nov. 4
Indiana	Oct. 7: In person, online or by mail (postmarked by Oct. 7)	Oct. 24: By mail; Nov. 4: In person	Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Oct. 8-Nov. 4
Iowa	Oct. 21: Online or by mail; Nov. 5: In person	Oct. 21: By mail; Nov. 4: In person	Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Oct. 16-Nov. 4
Kansas	Oct. 15: In person or by mail (postmarked by Oct. 15 and received by Oct. 27)	Oct. 29	Ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 5	Oct. 16-Nov. 4
Kentucky	Oct. 7	Oct. 22	Nov. 5	In person absentee voting Oct. 31-Nov. 2
Louisiana	Oct. 7: In person or by mail; Oct. 15: Online	Nov. 1	Nov. 4	Oct. 18-Oct. 29
Maine	Oct. 15: By mail or online; Nov. 5: In person	Oct. 31	Nov. 5	Oct. 6-Oct. 31
Maryland	Oct. 15: Online or by mail (postmarked by Oct. 15); Nov. 5: In person	Oct. 29: By mail; Nov. 5: In person	Ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 5	Oct. 24-Oct. 31
Massachusetts	Oct. 26: In person, online or by mail (postmarked by Oct. 26)	Oct. 29	Ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 8	Oct. 19-Nov. 1
Michigan	Oct. 21: Online or by mail (received by Oct. 21); Nov. 5: In person	Nov. 1: Online or by mail; Nov. 4: In person request	Nov. 5	Oct. 26-Nov. 3
Minnesota	Oct. 15: Online or by mail (received by Oct. 15); Nov. 5: In person	Nov. 4	Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Sept. 20-Nov. 4
Mississippi	Oct. 7: In person or by mail (postmarked by Oct. 7)	N/A	Ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Sept. 23-Nov. 2
Missouri	Oct. 29	Oct. 23: By mail; Nov. 4: In person	Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Oct. 22-Nov. 4
Montana	Oct. 7: By mail (postmarked by Oct. 7); Nov. 5: In person	Nov. 4	Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Oct. 7-Nov. 4
Nebraska	Oct. 18: Online or by mail (postmarked by Oct. 18); Oct. 25: In person	Oct. 25	Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Oct. 7-Nov. 4
Nevada	Oct. 8: By mail (postmarked by Oct. 11); Nov. 5: Online or in person	Mail-in ballots are automatically sent to all voters.	Ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 5	Oct. 19-Nov. 1
New Hampshire	Oct. 23-Nov. 5: Varies by location; check with your local clerk for deadline	Nov. 4	Nov. 5	N/A

State	Registration deadline	Deadline to request mail-in ballot	Deadline to return mail-in ballot	Early voting
New Jersey	Oct. 15	Oct. 29: By mail; Nov. 4: In person	Ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 5	Oct. 26-Nov. 3
New Mexico	Oct. 8: By mail; Nov. 5: In person	Oct. 22	Nov. 5	Oct. 8-Nov. 5
New York	Oct. 21: By mail (postmarked by Oct. 21 and received by Oct. 26); Oct. 26: In person	Oct. 26: By mail or online; Nov. 4: In person	Ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 5	Oct. 26-Nov. 3
North Carolina	Oct. 11: In person*, online, or by mail (postmarked by Oct. 11) *Can also register in person during early voting, Oct. 11-Nov. 2	Oct. 29	Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Oct. 17-Nov. 2
North Dakota	N/A	Nov. 4	Ballot must be received or postmarked by Nov. 4	Varies—contact local election office
Ohio	Oct. 7: In person, online or by mail (postmarked by Oct. 7)	Oct. 29	Nov. 4: Ballot must be postmarked by	In-person absentee voting Oct. 8-Nov. 3
Oklahoma	Oct. 11	Oct. 21	Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Oct. 30-Nov. 2
Oregon	Oct. 15	Mail-in ballots are automatically sent to all voters.	Ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Oct. 16-Nov. 5
Pennsylvania	Oct. 21	Oct. 29	Nov. 5	Varies—contact local election office
Rhode Island	Oct. 6	Oct. 15	by Nov. 5	Oct. 16 -Nov. 4
South Carolina	Oct. 6 (postmarked by Oct. 7)	Oct. 25	Nov. 5	Oct. 21-Nov. 2
South Dakota	Oct. 21	Nov. 4	Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Sept. 20-Nov. 4
Tennessee	Oct. 7: In person or by mail (postmarked by Oct. 7)	Oct. 29	Nov. 5	Oct. 16-Oct. 31
Texas	Oct. 7	Oct. 25	Ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 5	Oct. 21-Nov. 1
Utah	Oct. 25: By mail; Nov. 5: In person	Mail-in ballots are automatically sent to all voters.	Ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 4	Oct. 22-Nov. 1
Vermont	Nov. 5	Mail-in ballots are automatically sent to all voters.	Nov. 5	Oct. 1-Nov. 4
Virginia	Oct. 15: By mail; Nov. 2: In person	Oct. 25: By mail; Nov. 2: In person	Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Sept. 20-Nov. 2
Washington	Oct. 28: Email, online or fax; Nov. 5: In person	Mail-in ballots are automatically sent to all voters.	Ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 5	Oct. 18-Nov. 5
West Virginia	Oct. 15: In person, online or by mail (postmarked by Oct. 15)	Oct. 30	Ballot must be postmarked by Nov. 5	Oct. 23- Nov. 2
Wisconsin	Oct 16: Online or by mail (postmarked by Oct. 16); Nov. 5: In person	Oct. 31: By mail; Nov. 3: In person	Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Oct. 22-Nov. 3
Wyoming	Oct. 21: By mail; Nov. 5: In person	Nov. 4	Nov. 5	In-person absentee voting Oct. 8-Nov. 4