Resolution To Restore Overnight First-Class Mail Delivery Service By The U.S. Postal Service

WHEREAS the U.S. Postal Service changed delivery standards on January 5, 2015, eliminating next-day delivery of normal first class mail; and

WHEREAS letters, invoices, bill payments, medicine, Netflix, and other mail that had taken a single day to be delivered in the same metropolitan area will, under the new standards, take a minimum of two days; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Postal Service has recovered financially from the Great Recession, with revenue having increased for seven straight quarters, and an operating profit since October 2012 despite the impact of the congressionally mandated "pre-funding" of retiree health benefits (a standard required of no other employer); and

WHEREAS the change in delivery standards will result in closure of mail processing operations in Tacoma, Wenatchee, Redmond and 79 other sites nationwide, impacting 15,000 workers and eliminating union-wage jobs; and

WHEREAS Ruth Y. Goldway, a Postal Regulatory Commissioner since 1998, has criticized the recent service cuts as threatening "the very integrity and concept of Universal Service"; and

WHEREAS delays in mail delivery could slow counting of mail-in ballots and lead to disenfranchisement of voters in states that require mailed ballots to be <u>received</u> by Election Day; and

WHEREAS Suzan DelBene and 58 other U.S. representatives have co-sponsored HR 784, the Protect Overnight Delivery Act, to restore previous delivery standards;

THEREFORE, **BE IT RESOLVED** that we support HR 784 and any and all other efforts to restore overnight first-class mail delivery; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we shall forward this resolution to our federal legislators, the Postal Board of Governors, the Postal Regulatory Commission and the Postmaster General.

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Originated by David Yao, APWU: davidc.yao@comcast.net Adopted by the 30th LD Democrats on March 4, 2015