

NEWS & INFORMATION

FROM NALC.org

February 07, 2022

Several COVID-19 related MOUs extended until April 2022

By joint agreement ([M-01972](#)), several COVID-19 related memorandums of understanding have been further extended through April 8, 2022. These memoranda include: temporary expanded sick leave for dependent care ([M-01910](#)); temporary use of the 7:01 rule ([M-01913](#)); temporary workplace changes to promote social distancing ([M-01915](#)); temporary use of TCAs ([M-01916](#)); and reinstatement of temporary additional paid leave for CCAs ([M-01965](#)).

NALC and the Postal Service also agreed to another temporary time limit extension on Step B and arbitration appeals ([M-01973](#)), and an agreement giving local parties the ability to mutually develop a sign-up process for full-time employees who previously did not, or could not, place their names on either the overtime desired list or work assignment list ([M-01974](#)). Both of these agreements will expire on April 8, 2022.

Also extended through April 8, 2022, is a USPS memorandum ([M-01914](#)), which instructs managers and supervisors to allow liberal changes of schedule to accommodate employees dealing with childcare issues related to the pandemic. The memorandum also provides for liberal sick leave usage for employees who are sick and liberal annual and leave without pay (LWOP) to the extent operationally feasible, treats COVID-19 related leave as scheduled (as opposed to unscheduled) leave, and directs that leave taken for COVID-19 related reasons during this time may not be cited in discipline for failing to maintain an assigned schedule.

Each of the MOUs and the USPS directive can be found in [NALC's Materials Reference System](#) on the NALC website.

February 08, 2022

House passes Postal Service Reform Act

Today, in a 342-92 vote the House of Representatives passed the Postal Service Reform Act of 2022 ([H.R. 3076](#)). NALC President Fredric Rolando called the passage "a huge victory for the American people, who rely on the Postal Service for affordable and high-quality universal service."

The strongly bipartisan bill includes key measures to strengthen the Postal Service, including provisions that eliminate the mandate on the Postal Service to pre-fund its retiree health care benefits decades in advance and that codify the requirement to provide six-day mail delivery. It also includes provisions to reduce postal health care costs by maximizing participation in Medicare on a prospective basis.

The legislation, which was drafted by Committee on Oversight and Reform (COR) Chairwoman Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), Ranking Member James Comer (R-KY), COR Subcommittee Chairman Gerry Connolly (D-VA) and Committee on Education and Labor Ranking Member and COR member Virginia Foxx (R-NC), reflects a broad bipartisan consensus that was 15 years in the making and that has the support of the four postal unions, the mailing industry and Postal Service management.

"NALC commends Chairwoman Maloney and Ranking Member Comer for their bipartisan leadership to get this momentous bill passed in the House," NALC President Rolando said. "We also appreciate every House member who supported this bill by voting 'yes.'"

"With House passage, we are one step closer to dramatically improving the financial stability of the Postal Service. We call on the Senate to debate and pass H.R. 3076 as soon as possible—and then to send it to President Biden for his signature.

"I want to congratulate and thank all the NALC members who lobbied their members of Congress to win House passage and urge them to help finish the job by contacting their senators to urge them to vote for H.R. 3076."

February 10, 2022

Action needed: Ask your senators to vote "YES" on H.R. 3076

The Postal Service Reform Act (H.R. 3076) **passed in the House of Representatives** with 342 bipartisan votes. Now, NALC is asking all letter carriers to contact their senators and ask them to vote "yes" on this important legislation.

NALC thanks every letter carrier who lobbied their representatives to win House passage. We are calling on NALC members to finish the job by contacting their senators to urge them to vote for H.R. 3076.

Take action

- Call your senators at **844-959-1425**
- [Visit NALC's Legislative Action Center](#)

Information on H.R. 3076

H.R. 3076 is a bipartisan bill that will bring financial stability to the Postal Service. It includes key provisions for letter carriers, including eliminating the mandate that requires the Postal Service to pre-fund its retiree health care benefits decades in advance and codifying six-day mail delivery. It also integrates future postal annuitants into Medicare.