

UPDATE

NAPS Leg/Reg Update - July 24, 2013

House Panel Advances Postal Reform Measure

An amended version of a House Republican postal reform measure, [HR 2748](#), was approved by a narrow margin by the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee on Wednesday evening. The approval vote, 22-17, fell along party lines. The measure was sponsored by committee chairman Darrell Issa (R-CA).

The National Association of Postal Supervisors earlier had [raised concerns](#) over several of the bill's most important provisions. Those provisions allow five-day-per-week delivery of mail, require a move away from to-the-door delivery, displace the Board of Governors with a five-member "control board" with expansive authority, and change the way the Postal Service calculates retirement and health payments.

During the Committee's markup session on Wednesday, an alternative postal reform measure, offered by the committee's top Democrat, Rep. Elijah Cummings (D-MD), failed by a 17-22 committee vote, once again along party lines. Rep. Cumming's measure, derived from his Innovate to Deliver Act ([HR 2690](#)), included a provision that would have extended MSPB appeal rights to all employees covered by the Executive and Administrative Schedule, an initiative strongly supported by NAPS. The MSPB appeal rights language was modeled after the Postal Employee Appeal Rights Amendments Act ([HR 1431](#)) introduced by Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-VA).

The Issa postal reform measure, as approved by the House committee, now goes to the House floor, although the timing of action on the legislation is uncertain. A vote, at the earliest, would come after House members return in September from the upcoming August recess.

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