

UPDATE

NAPS Leg/Reg Update - September 8, 2014

Processing Facility Closure Moratorium Gains Steam

Members of Congress return to the Capitol on Monday for a brief period, prior to returning home for the final sprint to the mid-term November elections.

Congress will be in session for only the next seven legislative days. Expectations of Congressional accomplishment are low, other than to pass a stopgap spending bill that keeps the government operating until December. However, the spending bill could serve as a vehicle for the addition of riders addressing other matters, including a one-year moratorium on the closure of the 82 mail processing facilities that are slated for consolidation by USPS, beginning January 2015. For a complete list of the 82 facilities planned for consolidation, [click here](#).

The one-year moratorium on further consolidations will assure the continuation of First-Class overnight mail delivery to areas served by the plants and prevent the slowdown of mail across the nation, while Congressional efforts to achieve postal reform continue.

NAPS [supports](#) the moratorium and [opposes](#) the scale of the closure initiative because it will so significantly erode service and slow down the mail. Some mailers are also [concerned](#) about the negative impact of the planned Phase II of network consolidation.

Both the Senate and House are considering inclusion of the moratorium in their separate versions of the stopgap funding bill, called the Continuing Resolution or CR. Senate inclusion of the moratorium in its

CR received a boost last week when Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) [announced his support](#) for the moratorium, making him the 51st Senator to publicly support the moratorium.

In the House of Representatives, 82 House Members, at this point, have called for the one-year moratorium. This group, led by Rep. Ed Joyce (R-OH) and Rep. Ron Kind (D-WI), are preparing to send [a letter](#) later this week to House appropriations leaders urging inclusion of the moratorium provision in the House version of the CR. They are actively seeking additional co-signers.

CONTACT YOUR CONGRESSMAN: Make sure your House Member supports the moratorium and signed the moratorium letter. For a list of the House Members who have co-signed thus far, [click here](#).

Please urge your House Member to co-sign the moratorium letter by [clicking here](#). Thank you for doing this right now!

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