

BACKGROUND ON DEFAZIO'S LEGISLATION

HR 3591, Postal Service Protection Act

- Companion legislation was introduced in the Senate by Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT)
- The bill fixes the immediate fiscal problems faced by USPS by allowing them to recover overpayments made to its pension plans. Estimates show that the Postal Service has overpaid by anywhere from \$7 to 50 billion.
- The bill eliminates the required \$5 billion a year pre-funding of future retiree health benefits.
- The bill prevents closure of rural post offices by giving the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRG) binding authority to prevent closures based on the effect on the community and on employees; not just profit. Currently the PRG only acts in an advisory role.
- The bill requires strict delivery standards for 1st class mail delivery that would make it more difficult to close area mail processing centers.
- The bill would statutorily require 6 day delivery.
- The bill establishes new ways for USPS to generate revenue by providing non-postal services like new media services, issuance of licenses, shipment of beer and wine and shifting

more toward electronic mail.

HR 3592, Protecting Rural Post Office Act

- Companion legislation was introduced in the Senate by Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR)
- The bill precludes USPS from closing any post office which results in more than 10 miles between any 2 post offices.

DeFazio letter to Postmaster General Donahoe: [Click here to read](#)

Secretary of State Kate Brown Letter on USPS changes and Oregon Vote By Mail: [Click here to read](#)

Springfield Chamber of Commerce Letter on USPS changes: [Click here to read](#)