

Time to get your head out of the sand.....

Trump created a task force in June 2018 from the Office of Management and Budget. This committee was supposed to look into the sustainability of the USPS. They were supposed to look into the nuts and bolts the organization and make recommendations on how to make it sustainable. These people selected are predominantly supporters of privatization and big business. This is similar to me going to a financial planner to help me get my finances in order so I can live comfortably in the future. Well, something went horribly wrong because my financial planner gave me a report of doom and gloom, but he never asked me for copy of my monthly expenses or tax returns. He never even asked me how much I make monthly or yearly. Never asked me about my dependents, if I'm married or single. My report was basically I'm better off dead! Instead my financial adviser took my neighbors income, stats and monthly budget and advised me that I had to live within these means.... Pretty extreme right? Pretty ridiculous right? Well, that is exactly what happened during the OMB task force "investigation". The members of the task force never contacted the USPS to find out any stats, figures or information regarding the USPS's finances now or future. Instead, they contacted other countries and took stats and information from them and made a determination on the fate of the USPS. In December 2018, the OMB made their report public and it was to sell off the USPS. These are the people we are leaving the fate of the USPS. I would like to mention we all have something big to lose.

NEVER has the USPS been under such blatant attack as it is under this administration. Don't get me wrong, we have supporters and non-supporters from both sides of the isle. However, never has there been a president who is anti-USPS, anti-union and very pro-privatization.

My question to you is: **Will you be on the sidelines and allow someone take your job, retirement, benefits and future away or are you going to join the fight?**

APWU has been working diligently developing commercials, researching stats, hiring economists and developed an Anti-Privatization Campaign. This campaign is a strategic plan to mobilize union members, non-members, activists, allies and the public in the fight against the corporate/government plan to sell off the USPS. Here are a few items for this campaign to be successful:

- Talk to your friends, family and customers about the selling off of the USPS. Customers have no clue about this. Polls have shown that customers want to hear from "postal workers".
 - Inform the public that we use ZERO tax dollars to run the USPS.
 - The USPS keeps itself viable through the purchases of stamps and services at the counter.
- Selling off the USPS will raise the price of stamps and services.
 - Some rural areas will have to pay more to get their mail delivered. If they are a low-income area, they will most likely not receive service at all. Delivery will cost different price for a letter or same weight package going to Malibu, Compton, San Diego or Blythe.
 - FedEx and UPS cannot provide the service to 157 million door to door deliveries we currently do. We see that with every FedEx and UPS drop shipment where the USPS delivers the "last mile" specifically because they do not have the infrastructure to do it like the USPS.
 - There will be no sanctity of the mail. The employees who will be delivering the mail will not take care of the mail as we do. They will be low paying jobs and they will not have the urgency.

- Two of our biggest losers if the USPS gets sold off will be veterans and our senior citizens. Both, veterans and seniors get their medicine only through the USPS. The Department of Veteran Affairs has partnered with the USPS to provide them their medicine for free. This is an unnecessary burden to our vets and seniors.
- Selling off the USPS will immediately cancel our Collective Bargaining Agreement. Not only APWU's but NALC, NPMHU, NRLCA and NAPS. With a wave of a pen, the president can void out our CBA and all of our benefits will be gone. Not only those of current employees such as vacation, overtime, holidays, TSP, retirement, social security but the benefits for our retired employees also.

This is a blatant attack on the "middle class". For what? FOR PROFIT! Those people who want to sell off the USPS like to have you believe we are billions of dollars in the red. However, although our volume of letter mail has gone down drastically, we can all agree that the sale of parcel delivery has gone through the roof. The only reason why we are in the negative is because of the 2006 Congressional mandate to prefund our retirement 75 years in advance. NO other company federal or not have ever been given that mandate.

A National Call to Action has been declared by President Dimondstein to be held on April 15, 2019. If this is your day off, we need you to contact your local union to help pass out fliers to the public informing them that we take ZERO tax dollars. If this is not your day off, you can help us out during lunch (make sure you are not in uniform) or better yet, you can submit a 3189 change of schedule and ask for April 15 to be your non-schedule day off. How important is this issue to YOU? How important is this issue to your family? Now is the time, we need YOU to get involved. We encourage you to bring your family to help pass out this information. If you are interested in participating in your local Anti-Privatization committee contact California Area Local 909-981-2260 and provide them your contact information OR email me directly at scanchola@apwu.org.

Another plan of action is to reach out to our congressional representatives. We have made it very easy for you to email them asking them to support HR33. Simply go to www.usmailnotforsale.org and fill out your name and address and you will be directed immediately to your congressional representative's contact information. In fact, you will be able to fill out the email right from your smart phone! We have made it very easy for you to participate but it won't end there! It must NOT end there, we need you to share the link with your family, friends, neighbors and social media.

Finally, we are not alone! APWU will continue to work with other postal union, the AFL-CIO and allies who have committed to support us in this anti-privatization fight.

If you want more detailed information on this APWU Anti-Campaign please contact me directly.

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