

FEDERAL-POSTAL COALITION

February 10, 2012

Re: The American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act, H.R. 7

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the five million federal and postal workers and retirees represented by the undersigned organizations, we urge you to reject the American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act (H.R. 7) in its current form based on its underlying financing provisions. The legislation is financed, in part, by a reduction in the hard-earned pensions of federal and postal workers. We strongly oppose H.R. 3813, which was added to the bill, to offset a significant share of the costs of H.R. 7. This is a blatant and cynical attempt to require public employees to bear the burden of financing public infrastructure, setting a dangerous precedent that civil servants should serve as the "pay for" regardless of whether legislation impacts the federal workforce.

Federal workers have already contributed \$60 billion toward deficit reduction through the current two-year pay freeze. The federal retirement benefit cuts added to H.R. 7 would total an additional estimated \$44 billion.

If passed, the federal retirement benefit cuts contained in H. R. 7 would:

- Nearly triple required pension contributions for most current federal and postal employees;
- Require new federal and postal employees to pay five times more toward their pension contributions;
- Slash new federal and postal employee pensions by over 40%; and,
- Break agreements to provide Social Security supplements for current federal and postal employees who retire before age 62.

These reductions in retirement benefits are a vicious assault on over two million workers currently employed by the federal government. They are already making significant contributions toward reducing government costs, both in their personal lives by sacrificing a pay raise for two years, and in their professional lives. Further cuts like the ones proposed to pay for H.R. 7 will impair the government's ability to attract and retain the best and the brightest to public service.

We strongly urge you to reject the American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act (H.R. 7) and vote "NO" when it comes to a vote.

Sincerely,

American Federation of Government Employees
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees

American Foreign Service Association
American Postal Workers Union
FAA Managers Association
Federally Employed Women
Federal Managers Association
International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers
Laborers' International Union of North America
National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association
National Air Traffic Controllers Association
National Association of Assistant United States Attorneys
National Association of Federal Veterinarians
National Association of Government Employees
National Association of Letter Carriers
National Association of Postal Supervisors
National Association of Postmasters of the United States
National Council of Social Security Management Association
National Federation of Federal Employees
National League of Postmasters
National Postal Mail Handlers Union
National Rural Letter Carriers Association
National Treasury Employees Union
Organization of Professional Employees of the U. S. Department of Agriculture
Patent Office Professional Association
Professional Aviation Safety Specialists
Professional Managers Association
Senior Executives Association

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Bruce Moyer
Chair, Federal-Postal Coalition
bruce@moyergroup.net
Phone: 301-452-1111