

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 29

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES RAUSCHER, Fields, Kreiss-Tomkins

Introduced: 2/11/22

Referred: State Affairs

A RESOLUTION

1 **Urging the United States Congress to pass the Postal Service Reform Act of 2021; urging**
2 **the United States Congress to pass the Postal Banking Act; and urging the United States**
3 **Postal Service to continue delivering mail six days a week under historic delivery**
4 **standards.**

5 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

6 **WHEREAS** the United States Postal Service is critically important to the well-being
7 of communities throughout the state and provides a lifeline to rural communities in the state;
8 and

9 **WHEREAS** the United States Postal Service experiences unique challenges in this
10 state because many communities are accessible only by air or water; and

11 **WHEREAS** the United States Postal Service delivers more than 100,000,000 pounds
12 of consumer goods to rural communities using the bypass mail program; and

13 **WHEREAS** the United States Postal Service holds a universal service obligation that
14 mandates a minimum level of service; and

15 **WHEREAS** the United States Postal Service has raised rates on First-Class Mail by

1 6.8 percent and slowed expected delivery of mail systemwide; and

2 **WHEREAS** the United States Postal Service has lost \$69,000,000,000 over the past
3 11 fiscal years and has unsustainable unfunded liabilities that are twice the amount of its
4 annual revenue; and

5 **WHEREAS** the United States Postal Service has cut its service hours statewide and
6 has had difficulty maintaining adequate staffing; and

7 **WHEREAS** the United States Postal Service provides a vital service to residents of
8 the state; and

9 **WHEREAS** action is necessary to preserve the United States Postal Service and the
10 services it provides for residents of the state; and

11 **WHEREAS** time is of the essence; and

12 **WHEREAS** S. 1720, the Postal Service Reform Act of 2021, will release the United
13 States Postal Service from prefunding its employee pension plan and combine Medicare with
14 health care benefits of retired United States Postal Service workers; and

15 **WHEREAS** S. 4614, the Postal Banking Act of 2020, would provide more income for
16 the United States Postal Service by allowing the United States Postal Service to offer
17 checking and savings accounts, check cashing, low-fee automated teller machines, money
18 transfers, bill payment, and United States Postal Service debit cards;

19 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully urges the United
20 States Congress to pass S. 1720, the Postal Service Reform Act of 2021; and be it

21 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully urges the
22 United States Congress to reintroduce and pass S. 4614, the Postal Banking Act of 2020; and
23 be it

24 **FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully urges the
25 United States Postal Service to meet historic delivery standards by maintaining mail delivery
26 six days a week.

27 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the
28 U.S. House of Representatives; the Honorable Charles Schumer, President of the U.S. Senate;
29 Louis DeJoy, Postmaster General and CEO of the United States Postal Service; and the
30 Honorable Lisa Murkowski and the Honorable Dan Sullivan, U.S. Senators, and the
31 Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska delegation in Congress.