

2014 FEB 20 PM 4: 07 RESOLUTION No. \_\_\_\_\_ C.M.S.

Introduced by Councilmembers Kaplan

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**Resolution supporting the Postal Service Protection Act and urging Senators Boxer and Feinstein to support the act that protects 6 day mail delivery, mail processing, and door to door service to households and businesses.**

**WHEREAS**, The US Postal Service is a vital component of this country's economic and communications infrastructure handling and delivering 160 billion pieces of mail and generating more than \$65 billion in revenues annually, while receiving no taxpayer funding; and

**WHEREAS**, The mailing industry, which employs 8 million Americans, generates over \$1 trillion dollars annually, and represents approximately seven percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP), depends on the US Postal Service's invaluable mail processing, retail and last-mile delivery networks 6 days a week; and

**WHEREAS**, The US Postal Service is the only private company or federal agency required by Congress to pre-fund future retiree health benefits for 75 years, requiring \$5.5 billion dollars to be paid annually. In addition, the health benefits for postal retirees is fully funded with billions of dollars in excess, so there is no need to require a crippling \$5.5 billion additional annual payment that is causing unnecessary service cuts; and

**WHEREAS**, Protecting voting by mail, which is now commonplace in California, is essential to our democracy; and

**WHEREAS**, The US Postal Service employs over a thousand employees in the City of Oakland; and

**WHEREAS**, the Postal Service operating is funded through the sale of postage, products and services using no tax dollars

**WHEREAS**, The US Postal Service is the second largest employer of US Veterans in the country with over 22% of its employees United States Veterans; and

**WHEREAS**, Rural communities, many of which do not have access to the Internet, remain dependent on the Postal Service for vital communications and for the shipment of goods; and

**WHEREAS**, Small businesses along with many Americans, particularly seniors, depend on the Postal Service for receipt of their prescription drugs; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, That the City Council urges US Senator Barbara Boxer and US Senator Dianne Feinstein to support postal reform legislation that would: Secure the continuance of 6-day mail delivery; Stabilize the Postal Service's finances by reforming or eliminating future retiree health financing policies that are crippling the Postal Service's finances; Strengthen and protect the Postal Service's invaluable mail processing, retail and last-mile delivery networks that together comprise a crucial part of the nation's infrastructure; Retain door-to-door delivery for 30 million plus households and businesses; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That the City Council transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, to both US Senator Barbara Boxer and US Senator Dianne Feinstein, and to the United States Postmaster General

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA,

\_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_

**PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:**

AYES -

NOES -

ABSENT -

ABSTENTION -

\_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

LaTonda Simmons  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council  
of the City of Oakland, California