

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. RES. 144

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that bonuses for managerial personnel of the United States Postal Service should not be awarded in any year in which the Postal Service anticipates that it will operate at a deficit or in which a general increase in postal rates has been requested, has gone into effect, or is likely to become effective.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 17, 2001

Mr. JONES of North Carolina submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that bonuses for managerial personnel of the United States Postal Service should not be awarded in any year in which the Postal Service anticipates that it will operate at a deficit or in which a general increase in postal rates has been requested, has gone into effect, or is likely to become effective.

Whereas the United States Postal Service paid out \$280,000,000 in bonuses to managerial personnel in fiscal year 2000;

Whereas the Postal Service suffered a loss of \$199,000,000 in fiscal year 2000, and projects that it will have losses of \$2,000,000,000 to \$3,000,000,000 in fiscal year 2001;

Whereas the amount paid by the Postal Service in bonuses to managerial personnel in fiscal year 2000 represented only a fraction of the total bonus amounts that were in fact awarded to such personnel in that fiscal year, with the balance often to be paid out in subsequent years (including, in some cases, after retirement);

Whereas managerial personnel of the Postal Service may receive compensation up to the rate for level I of the Executive Schedule, which is greater than the rate of pay for a Federal judge and equal to the rate of pay for the head of an Executive department;

Whereas, by receiving the balance of one's bonus after retirement, some postal managers are able to circumvent even that statutory limitation;

Whereas the Inspector General of the United States Postal Service has testified that postal bonus payments have increased from 16 percent of net income in fiscal year 1996 to 325 percent of net income in fiscal year 2000;

Whereas the justification for postal bonuses is increased productivity;

Whereas the Comptroller General of the United States has testified that the Postal Service has not demonstrated an ability to sustain even modest productivity gains;

Whereas Postal Service productivity has increased by only 11 percent over 30 years and, during the period from 1990 to 1998, actually decreased by 0.6 percent, while non-governmental productivity grew by 7 percent during that same period;

Whereas the Postal Service received an overall 4.6 percent postal rate increase effective January 7, 2001, and some

postal categories were required to pay increases of as much as 15 percent;

Whereas, on February 6, 2001, the Postal Service suggested that it will seek an additional 15 to 20 percent increase in postal rates, including an increase of as much as 30 percent in some postal categories; and

Whereas the Inspector General of the United States Postal Service has testified that, at a time when the Postal Service is requesting further rate increases, it is projecting negative net income: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
2 resentatives that bonuses for managerial personnel of the
3 United States Postal Service should not be awarded in any
4 year in which the Postal Service anticipates that it will
5 operate at a deficit or in which a general increase in postal
6 rates has been requested, has gone into effect, or is likely
7 to become effective.

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