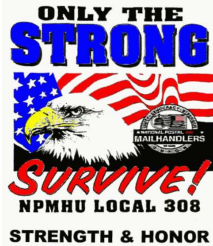




# National Postal Mail Handlers Union

## THE BREAKDOWN



A DIVISION OF THE LABORERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA, AFL-CIO 1300

### Union Representatives

#### Local President

Frank Phillips

#### Branch President

John Gibson

#### Chief Stewards

##### T-1

Janette Lanza

##### T-2

Louis Morrone

##### T-3

Joyce Rogers

#### Reg. Stewards

##### T-1

Stephanie Geter

##### T-2

Mike Myles

Rob Singleton

Joe Zelenenki

Gary Simmons

##### T-3

Mike Mohan

Robert Hall

Robin Fowler

#### Alt. Stewards

##### T-2

Sandra Dudley

Velma Jackson

Keith Johnston

John Wescott

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### Dramatic Victory for Employee

#### Free Choice Act in House of Representatives

March 2, 2007 The House of Representatives passed the Employee Free Choice Act (H.R. 800) by a vote of 241-185 on March 1. Thirteen Republicans broke ranks to join 228 Democrats in favor of giving workers a fair deal in forming a union. "This is only the first step, but it is significant," commented National President John Hegarty. "I want to thank all Mail Handlers who contacted their Representatives on this issue. Your effort helped make this a success. "It is an historic moment for labor. By banning harassment and intimidation of employees who want a better life through a union, we will be offering workers a choice and a chance for decent wages, working conditions and retirement." For generations, union wages have been the vehicle by which working families gain dignity, earn a decent wage, send their children to college, purchase a house, enjoy reasonable health care coverage while 41 million non-unionized Americans go without such coverage and rely on hospital emergency rooms, and much more. American labor law was intended from the outset to encourage working people to come together and bargain collectively for better wages and benefits than they would be able to get on their own. But in the past few decades, the laws have been so twisted by corporations and their union-busting hired guns that it is now virtually impossible to form a union against an employer's wishes. The choice that should belong to employees now belongs to employers. Corporations routinely fire, intimidate, harass, and coerce workers during organizing campaigns, and the labor laws are helpless to stop them. The current process is rigged from the outset by the side that signs the paycheck. They take advantage of the fact that, since 1947, there has not been a significant updating of labor laws. The Democrats who managed the bill on the House Floor, Rob Andrews (D-NJ) and George Miller (D-CA), beat back several Republican amendments that would have gutted the bill. Republican opponents to HR 800 were backed by a multi-million dollar advertising and lobbying effort by the corporate world and anti-union groups. Mail Handlers are urged to thank their Representatives who voted in favor, which includes all Democrats except Dan Boren (OK) and Gene Taylor (MS) – the two Democrats who voted against the bill. The Republicans who voted in favor include long-time Mail Handler supporters John McHugh (NY) and Chris Shays (CT). Other Republicans who voted for passage are Ferguson, LoBiondo, Saxton and Smith (NJ), Fosella, King and Walsh (NY), LaTourette (OH), McCotter (MI), T. Murphy (PA) and Young (AK). The bill now moves to the Senate, where it is expected to be introduced by Senator Ted Kennedy (D-MA) and others within a few weeks. The Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, chaired by Kennedy, will hold hearings and possibly make adjustments to the bill. It is not likely to go to the Senate Floor for a vote until this summer. Because any Senator can filibuster a bill, it may take 60 votes to break the filibuster and move the legislation to the Senate Floor. If it passes, President Bush has said he will veto the legislation. Such a move by the President would set up a confrontation with Congress, as they try to override his veto.

We will keep you informed as developments occur.