

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to offer my opinion on N2010-1, the issue of the postal service reducing service from the current 6 day offering to 5 days, by dropping Saturday mail delivery. While I understand all of the reasons for the postal service requesting the ability to do so, I oppose the measure with strong prejudice.

It is my belief that the US Postal Service should instead operate on a usage basis. If I receive a large quantity of mail on Saturday, then I should not be penalized. Instead, those that send the mail should be the ones responsible for bearing the burden of sending mail. Instead of reducing the number of days, perhaps the USPS should follow the private sector model, and price out the benefit accordingly.

Sending mail on Saturday should cost more than sending mail Monday to Friday. Fedex offers the option of receiving your packages on Saturday, and they add an additional surcharge for that delivery option. Why doesn't the USPS offer the same service option? With the recent addition of the stamps that do not expire in their value, the USPS has demonstrated their ability to branch out to new ideas to compete with the market, and make consumers experience with the USPS easier. Why not follow that same model by introducing 'Saturday Delivery Stamps'? These stamps would carry an additional charge, but would guarantee mail to be delivered on Saturday. Any mail not sent with this new postage would sit in the post office until Monday, as proposed under the current proposal.

In order to maximize profits and keep things easier on the USPS business side, any metered mail would be metered at the higher Saturday delivery rate. This would allow for the post office to charge a higher premium for those who want the benefit of metered mail, and would allow the consumer to receive the same benefit of receiving their mail on 6 days, as opposed to 5.

At the same time, perhaps it is time for the post office to make a large jump in postage to plan for the future. Why not raise stamps to 75 cents now, to allow for reserves to be built up to offset future unknown costs? Then charge \$1.00 for a Saturday Delivery postage, to incentivize those who don't care about the Saturday delivery to save, and those that do to pay a higher cost to offset the additional service delivery day.

In this day of modern technology and advancement, why should the USPS be allowed to cut service and raise prices, when so many other companies are looking to do the opposite? Did we not just pass a new health care bill to ensure all Americans would be covered under health care? That's an expansion of benefits. So why should the USPS be removing benefits at a time when this country needs to focus on internal process improvement and better leadership from within. Why should I as the consumer pay for the USPS mistakes? If they can't do the job they have been tasked with, then perhaps the best solution would be to outsource the entire operation to the private sector, reduce the government bureaucracy, and see what mail delivery really could be?

Thank You,

Noah Webster