

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. HJ0006

Post office closures.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Steward

A Bill

for

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION requesting Congress to issue a
2 moratorium on the closing of United States Postal Service
3 offices in Wyoming.

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5 WHEREAS, in its most recent fiscal year, the United States
6 Postal Service sustained the largest net operating loss in
7 its history, and in response has begun the process of
8 closing more than three thousand (3,000) local post offices
9 nationwide; and

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11 WHEREAS, in Wyoming, up to forty-three (43) post offices
12 are in the process or under the threat of closing; and

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14 WHEREAS, the closing of post offices will have a
15 devastating impact on the communities which they serve; and

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1 WHEREAS, the physical distances between rural post offices
2 in Wyoming will necessitate great hardship on Wyoming
3 citizens if closures of rural post offices occur, requiring
4 residents to travel great distances for the privilege of
5 obtaining their mail; and

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7 WHEREAS, there is significant question whether the cost of
8 providing service to rural Wyoming is a primary factor in
9 the operating loss; and

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11 WHEREAS, rural communities bear an unequal burden from the
12 postal service's attempts to initiate cost cutting through
13 post office closures rather than consideration of systemic
14 cost containment measures; and

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16 WHEREAS, before an office is closed it is essential to
17 determine not only the savings to the postal service, but
18 also the impact on the local community; and

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20 WHEREAS, the loss of a post office not only hinders the
21 economic development of a community, but also threatens the
22 health, safety and welfare of its residents by causing
23 additional delays in the delivery of vital medications and
24 correspondence.

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2 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE
3 LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WYOMING:

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5 **Section 1.** That the Legislature of the State of
6 Wyoming respectfully requests that the United States
7 Congress place a moratorium on the closing of post office
8 locations in Wyoming and requests that Congress establish a
9 blue ribbon panel to investigate the causes of the postal
10 service operating losses, other systemic cost cutting
11 approaches, the actual cost to the postal service in
12 maintaining the rural offices and the impact on the
13 communities if a local post office is closed.

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15 **Section 2.** That the Secretary of State of Wyoming
16 transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the
17 United States, to the President of the Senate and the
18 Speaker of the House of Representatives of the United
19 States Congress and to the Wyoming Congressional
20 Delegation.

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(END)