



AMERICANS FOR TAX REFORM

Grover G. Norquist

President

The Honorable Bill Frist
Majority Leader
United States Senate
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

November 18, 2004

Dear Majority Leader Frist:

On behalf of taxpayers and consumers everywhere, I strongly urge you to oppose the nomination of Dawn Tisdale to the Postal Rate Commission (PRC).

The Postal Rate Commission was intended to serve as an independent board overseeing the operations of a government monopoly. Among other things, the Commission is charged with objective consideration of rate increase requests and the closure of underperforming facilities. Indeed, the President's Commission on the U.S. Postal Service in 2003 envisioned a board comprised of individuals with "backgrounds in areas relevant to the regulation of large, complex business entities."

Mr. Tisdale's extensive experience as an employee of the United States Postal Service, while admirable, is precisely why he would be an inappropriate addition to the PRC. This experience, as well as Mr. Tisdale's former position as an official with the National Association of Letter Carriers, calls into question his ability to objectively consider rate increases and office closures.

The notion of someone from a regulated operation suddenly being put in a position of regulator over that very same operation is rather unusual and could be contradictory to the PRC's stated mission. In short, I fear Mr. Tisdale would be a "rubber stamp" for the interests of the USPS and its unions rather than an objective, independent citizen/ratepayer watchdog. **Therefore, I strongly urge you to oppose the nomination of Dawn Tisdale to the Postal Rate Commission.**

Onward,

Grover Norquist

Cc: Republican Members, U.S. Senate