

EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES

CALIFORNIA SENATE BILL 1151

The California State Association of Letter Carriers, working with California State Senator Isadore Hall, has just introduced new Postal Legislation in Sacramento with a similar idea to the previous NALC City Readiness Plan. In addition, a similar bill (SB 57) has already been introduced in the Utah State Legislature and is awaiting votes. National Legislative Department is encouraging passage of this legislation.

California Senate Bill 1151, if passed and enacted, the bill would do the following:

The office shall conduct a study to determine the feasibility of establishing a contract with the United States Postal Service to obtain the assistance of the United States Postal Service with emergency response services during a declared disaster. The study shall include, but is not limited to, an examination of the use of United States Postal Service employees, resources, and assets to provide the following:

- a) An identification of residential or commercial structures that have been damaged as a result of a declared emergency.*
- b) An identification of persons who reside in an area damaged by a declared emergency, and any emergency medical or physical needs of those persons.*
- c) Assistance in assessing damage to neighborhoods or schools as a result of a declared emergency.*
- d) Any other activity that the office deems necessary to assist in responding to a declared disaster.*

SB 1551 is just starting hearings and will need to go through both the Assembly and Senate prior to it being considered for passage by Governor Brown.