color, creed, sex, sexual orientation, nationality, handicap, political affiliation, age, or religion, all employees under the jurisdiction of the APWU.

SEC. 7. To educate our membership and the general public in the history of the Labor Movement and to develop and maintain an intelligent and dignified membership to vote and work for the election of candidates who favor the passage of improved legislation in the interest of all labor. To work for the repeal of laws which are unjust to labor and to the postal workers such as the denial of the right to strike and the denial of the right to support political candidates of their choice; and to educate all members in the area of economic, political and social justice.

SEC. 8. To engage in legislative, political education, civic, welfare and other activities which further, directly or indirectly, the joint interests of the membership of this Union in the improvement of general economic and social conditions in the United States of America.

SEC. 9. (a) To work as an autonomous union affiliated with the AFL-CIO, together with other national and international unions for the solidification of the entire Labor Movement.

(b) The National Executive Board may provide assistance, financial and otherwise, to labor and other organizations in the United States and other parts of the world having purposes and objectives similar or related to those sought by this Organization.

SEC. 10. The APWU is established as an industrial union, including in its membership postal workers of all divisions who are not classified as supervisors. Its top leadership shall consist of a President, Executive Vice President, and Secretary-Treasurer.

SEC. 11. (a) The American Postal Workers Union shall request and make every effort to secure a meeting with the National Association of Letter Carriers, a minimum of once a year, for the sole purpose of discussing and moving in the direction of eventual merger.

(b) Also, the same type of meetings shall be conducted, a minimum of once every two (2) years, with the other postal unions (in the United States) that represent postal workers in non-supervisory levels.

SEC. 12. The APWU shall encourage the formation of state and area local / local retiree chapters of the APWU Retirees Department in every state and territory of the United States, in order that all APWU dues-paying retirees and their families shall have access to state and area local / local APWU Retirees Department chapters to continue to fight for those issues which affect APWU members, retirees, and their families.

ARTICLE 3
Membership

SEC. 1. Any non-supervisory employee, regardless of level or grade, within the jurisdictional claim of the APWU is eligible for membership. Those accepted for membership shall pay full per capita tax plus whatever dues may be required by his/her local union. A member’s good standing status shall not be affected by reason of the fact that his/her paycheck for the payroll period in which his/her dues deductions are made is insufficient to permit such dues deductions, by reason of illness, injury, (except for members on the automatic rolls or receiving pay for an approved on-the-job injury from the Department of Labor—Office of Worker’s Compensation Programs), military leave, pregnancy leave, lay-off, disciplinary suspension, lockout or strike. The national Union shall not charge the locals for per capita tax on these employees during the period, but shall through their own resources keep that member in good standing to protect his/her

* Deleted Jan. 31, 2012, by the National Executive Board, in accordance with Art. 22.2.