

Address of Honorable John E. Fogarty, MC, Second Rhode Island District, before the House Post Office and Civil Service Committee, at hearings held April 7, 1949.

I appear before you gentlemen in support of HR 87. It's my firm opinion that this bill, if made into law, will fill a gap now existing in the regulation affecting Postal Employees. It seems to me that it will straighten out certain inequities which have tended to penalize the veteran of World War II.

I have received a great deal of correspondence on this matter, from persons and organizations in my district - the Second District of Rhode Island. Letters have come to me from both veterans and non-veterans, and all of them - without exception - have urged the changes which this bill will put into effect. Postal employees, themselves, have given it their strong endorsement.

There is not a question of doubt in my mind that many Postal Workers would today have higher ratings if they had not taken time out to serve in the defense of their country. Certainly we are all in agreement that no penalty should attach to patriotism. And yet, present experience shows that some of these veterans have been, and are being, deprived of the benefits which would have accrued to them had they not served. It is with this thought in mind that I earnestly request your serious consideration of H.R. 87 and that you take affirmative action on it. I want the opportunity to be able to vote for it on the floor of the House.