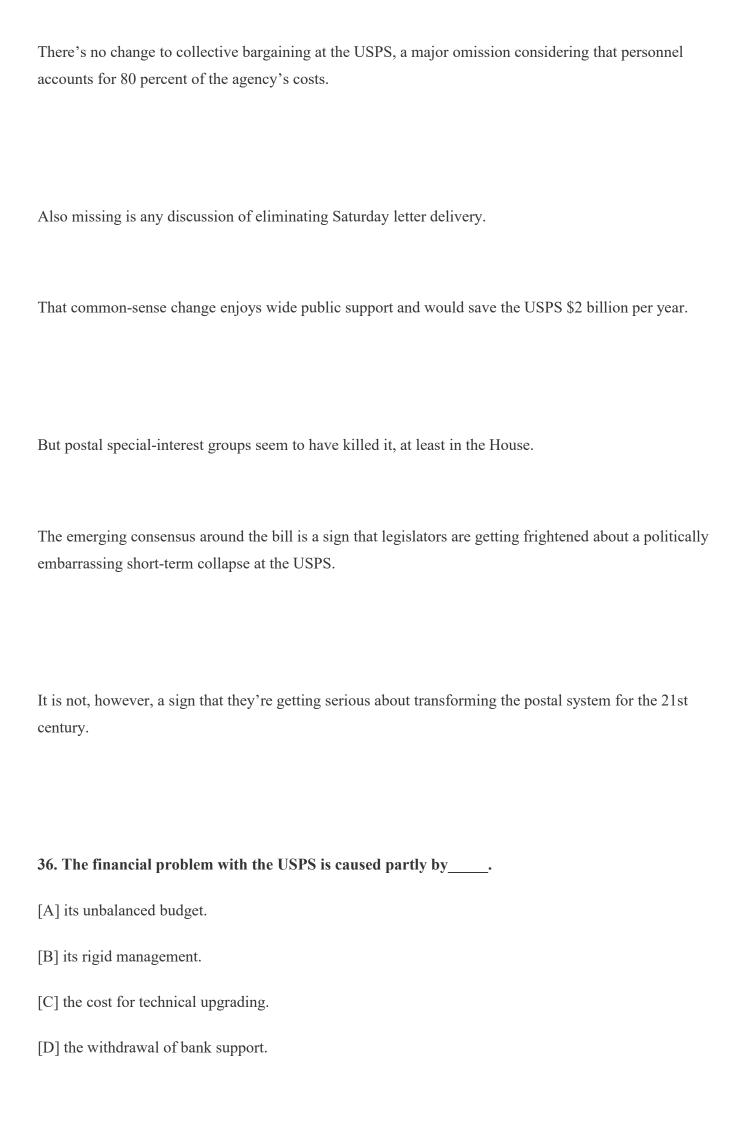
2018-1 Text 4

1- The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) continues to bleed red ink.	
It reported a net loss of \$5.6 billion for fiscal 2016, the 10th straight year its expenses have exceeded revenue.	
Meanwhile, it has more than \$120 billion in unfunded liabilities, mostly for employee health and retirem costs.	ent
There are many reasons this formerly stable federal institution finds itself at the brink of bankruptcy.	
Fundamentally, the USPS is in a historic squeeze between technological change that has permanently decreased demand for its bread-and-butter product, first-class mail, and a regulatory structure that denies management the flexibility to adjust its operations to the new reality.	;
2- And interest groups ranging from postal unions to greeting-card makers exert self-interested pressure the USPS's ultimate overseer - Congress - insisting that whatever else happens to the Postal Service, aspects of the status quo they depend on get protected.	on



[A] the interference from interest groups.
[B] the inadequate funding from Congress.
[C] the shrinking demand for postal service.
[D] the incompetence of postal unions.
38. The long-standing complaint by the USPS and its unions can be addressed by
[A] removing its burden of retiree health care.
[B] making more investment in new vehicles.
[C] adopting a new rate-increase mechanism.
[D] attracting more first-class mail users.
39. In the last paragraph, the author seems to view legislators with
[A] respect.
[B] tolerance.
[C] discontent.
[D] gratitude.
40. Which of the following would be the best title for the text?
[A] The USPS Starts to Miss Its Good Old Days
[B] The Postal Service: Keep Away from My Cheese
[C] The USPS: Chronic Illness Requires a Quick Cure
[D] The Postal Service Needs More than a Band-Aid

37. According to Paragraph 2, the USPS fails to modernize itself due to_____.