

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

October 29, 2025

Postmaster General David P. Steiner
USPS – Headquarters
475 L’Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260

Postmaster General Steiner:

As Co-Chairs of the Congressional Postal Service Caucus, we are writing to congratulate you on taking office as the 76th Postmaster General of the United States. We trust you know that your appointment comes at a pivotal time when it is essential to prioritize improving on-time delivery rates for customers to maintain trust and faith in the Postal Service.

As former Postmaster General Louis DeJoy worked to implement his “Delivering for America” (DFA) plan, we unfortunately saw steady declines in on-time delivery performance across the country. In the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25), the Postal Service’s on-time delivery for three-to five-day delivery fell to just 66.8 percent nationally, with some regions as low as 45 percent. This falls well short of the Postal Service’s current on-time delivery goal of 80 percent – and even further below its previous target of 90.3 percent, which remained in place until the former Postmaster General lowered the FY25 benchmark last year. This drastic decline in on-time delivery means our constituents are not receiving essential items, like paychecks, bills, food, and even medicine, in a timely manner.

A key part of the DFA plan was the proposed closure and consolidation of dozens of Processing and Distribution Centers (P&DCs) across the country. These proposals would not only jeopardize the jobs of thousands of Postal Service employees, but also significantly extend the distance mail must travel—often by hundreds of miles—before reaching its destination. When the Postal Service first attempted to make these changes in the Richmond, Virginia, region, a United States Postal Service Office of Inspector General (USPS OIG) report found that the consolidations in the region resulted in “a decrease in service performance for the Richmond region.” This report also found that these changes cost the Postal Service additional transportation and labor costs, totaling over \$8 million¹.

While we fully support Postal Service modernization efforts, it is essential that these changes are not made on the backs of Postal Service employees or the millions of Americans who rely on the Postal Service for on-time delivery every day. As such, we ask that as you begin your tenure as Postmaster General, you continue to review the Delivering for America plan and ensure it will not result in slower delivery for customers because of its implementation.

Additionally, we wanted to bring to your attention the implementation of the Regional Transportation Optimization (RTO) plan, which former Postmaster General DeJoy introduced last year. Under this plan, the Postal Service would limit pickups from Post Offices more than 50 miles away from larger Regional Processing and Distribution Centers (RP&DCs). These changes would create additional delays for outgoing mail from predominantly rural areas.

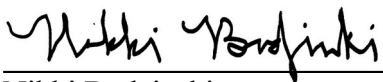
¹ [Effectiveness of the New Regional Processing and Distribution Center in Richmond, VA | Office of Inspector General OIG](#)

When a pilot version of this program was tested in Wisconsin last year, the USPS OIG found that the changes resulted in a “decrease in service” in which “rural communities were more significantly impacted.”² A second report from the USPS OIG in May 2025 found that “challenges implementing major changes to the Postal Service network over the last few years have negatively impacted service performance.”³ We believe it is essential that the nationwide implementation of the RTO plan must also be paused until it can be updated to ensure that rural customers, like the ones we represent, are not going to experience further delays as a result of its implementation.

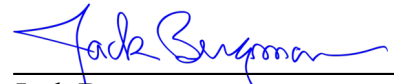
Finally, we are writing to ask if you work to ensure the Universal Service Obligation (USO) is protected. The USO ensures that Americans can get their mail delivered for the same price no matter where they live across the country. The preservation of this commitment is key to the future success of the Postal Service. As Members of Congress, we hope to continue to work with you to protect the USO and preserve the Postal Service as an independent agency of the federal government.

We appreciate you taking these suggestions into consideration as you begin your tenure as Postmaster General. As chairs of the Postal Service Caucus, we look forward to working with you and your team to protect the Postal Service’s employees and improve on-time delivery rates across the nation. Thank you for your service and we wish you the best of luck in this critically important role.

Sincerely,



Nikki Budzinski
Member of Congress



Jack Bergman
Member of Congress



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



Andrew R. Garbarino
Member of Congress

² [Network Changes: Local Transportation Optimization in the Wisconsin Region | Office of Inspector General OIG](#)

³ [Delivering for America - First-Class and Priority Mail Service Performance Update | Office of Inspector General OIG](#)