



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

August 14, 2020

Louis DeJoy, Postmaster General
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington D.C., 20260

Dear General DeJoy,

Benjamin Franklin's resume included two incredibly important jobs: Speaker of the Pennsylvania Assembly and Postmaster General of the United States. In either role, Mr. Franklin would have been as appalled at the outrageous attack on the United States Postal Service as we are.

The USPS is enshrined in the United States Constitution and is literally a lifeline for millions of Americans who count on their mail carriers to bring medicine and money, to maintain the commerce of the nation and, now more than ever, to allow at-risk citizens to exercise their constitutional right to vote safely and securely via a mail-in ballot.

Slowing down mail service, removing automated sorting machines and even removing mailboxes from corners will force people to make a terrible choice: risk having their ballot thrown away because it didn't arrive on time, or risk a crowded polling place with the potential of a COVID-19 infection. This is unacceptable, and the people will not stand for it.

There is nothing more American than a free and fair election, and the actions you have taken to slow down mail delivery directly impact the integrity of the upcoming election. Pennsylvania counties are already overburdened with the expected increase in mail-in ballots because of the coronavirus pandemic; taking away the resources of the USPS is simply unconscionable.

Our constituents have a constitutional right to vote and Pennsylvanians who choose to have their voices heard through mail-in voting should not have those voices silenced or their constitutional rights violated by your actions.

As you are aware, the USPS employs nearly 700,000 Americans in literally every municipality in America. Nearly half of them are people of color and more than 100,000 are military veterans. They provide a service to rural areas that a private company will have no financial interest in matching.



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Americans rely on the USPS every day to mail and deliver important items including legal documents, bills and prescriptions. During the upcoming months, the USPS will play a vital role in delivering ballots. Your actions are unnecessarily disrupting our constituent's lives and, if you do not reverse course, will directly impact their right to vote. We implore you to do the right thing.

Sincerely,

The Leaders of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives Democratic Caucus

Rep. Frank Dermody

Rep. Jordan Harris

Rep. Joanna McClintock

Rep. Rosita Youngblood

Rep. Neal Goodman

Rep. Mike Sturla

Rep. Matt Bradford

Rep. Kevin Boyle

CC:

The Honorable Robert Casey
The Honorable Brian Fitzpatrick
The Honorable Dwight Evans
The Honorable Mary Gay Scanlon
The Honorable Susan Wild
The Honorable Dan Meuser
The Honorable Lloyd Smucker
The Honorable John Joyce
The Honorable Glenn Thompson
The Honorable Conor Lamb

The Honorable Patrick Toomey
The Honorable Brendan Boyle
The Honorable Madeleine Dean
The Honorable Chrissy Houlahan
The Honorable Matt Cartwright
The Honorable Scott Perry
The Honorable Fred Keller
The Honorable Guy Reschenthaler
The Honorable Mike Kelly
The Honorable Mike Doyle