

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 13, 2021

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

Dear Postmaster General DeJoy,

We write to express extreme concern about the proposed changes to the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) operations, outlined in the *Delivering for America* 10- year plan. In recent months, our constituents in rural communities across the country have experienced long mail delays and lost mail and packages. If implemented, many of the service changes outlined in *Delivering for America* would hurt rural communities by slowing mail delivery, increasing postal prices, and reducing access to post offices. We request you revise the plan to ensure rural communities have consistent, affordable, and timely access to postal services.

The *Delivering for America* plan would further slow mail delivery by extending the delivery window for first class mail and limiting sorting and transportation methods. These changes, coupled with higher prices for first class mail, would significantly harm rural communities. Reducing these critical activities is unacceptable for our constituents who rely on daily USPS services. As a result of existing mail delays, invoices and bills are piling up, paychecks are lost in the mail, and prescriptions are nowhere to be found. Americans are going weeks without mail and the services they depend on, with few viable alternatives.

Staffing shortages have exacerbated delays and caused even more frustration for communities across the country. Your plan to cut post office hours and permanently close some post offices puts an even heavier burden on USPS staff, who are pillars in many communities. Postal workers are already overworked because of the strain of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and are doing everything they can to complete their work and provide the services that are desperately need. Our constituents will not stand by as postal standards are lowered because of a breakdown in USPS leadership.

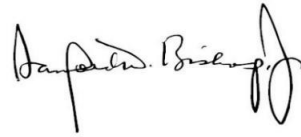
The abrupt reorganization and operational changes that took place this summer, highlighted the already dire situation within the USPS. Further slowing mail delivery, closing, and limiting the hours of post offices, and shutting down mail sorting machines are unacceptable policies for our constituents. We urge you to reevaluate the *Delivering for America* plan and find solutions that will not adversely impact rural communities.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you on this important matter.

Sincerely,



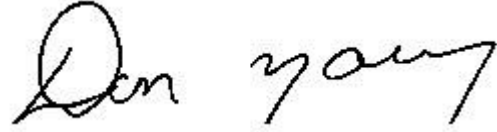
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Member of Congress



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