

Congress of the United States

Washington, D. C. 20515

February 16, 2021

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

Thank you for your dedicated efforts to address the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts on the American people. Under your leadership, we look forward to helping our country build back better from the hardships brought about by this pandemic. In particular, we believe that the ongoing crisis at the United States Postal Service requires your immediate attention. We respectfully request that you submit nominations for the three vacant positions on the United States Postal Service's Board of Governors to the Senate as expeditiously as possible. Nominating strong, passionate advocates for the institution to these open seats will allow it to function in a more nonpartisan, effective manner.

As you know, the Board of Governors of the U.S. Postal Service functions as its board of directors. The Board comprises 11 individuals, nine of whom are selected by the President of the United States with the advice and consent of the Senate. As a result of the Trump Administration's failure to fully fill the board, three of those nine seats remain vacant. We strongly believe that filling those three vacancies would enhance the ability of the Board to reach nonpartisan consensus on matters of importance.

The lack of bipartisan consensus is evident in the Board of Governors' selection of Republican Party megadonor Louis DeJoy – who had no experience working for the Postal Service prior to his appointment – to succeed Megan Brennan as Postmaster General in June 2020. Since Mr. DeJoy assumed office, he has, under the guise of enacting needed reforms, rapidly transformed the Postal Service to the detriment of Americans. Critically, the on-time delivery of flat mail has plunged drastically¹; veterans, who rely almost exclusively on the Postal Service to receive their medications through the VA, have faced life-threatening delays in receiving those parcels²; and the public perception pertaining to the integrity of the 2020 general election was threatened by the impact of these delays on the timely delivery of mail-in ballots.³

Now more than ever, it is the responsibility of the federal government to ensure USPS can maintain its high service standards when Americans – especially seniors, veterans, and those in

¹ <https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2021/business/usps-performance-whats-next-biden/>

² <https://www.radio.com/connectingvets/articles/usps-delays-veterans-affairs-mail-order-prescriptions>

³ <https://www.politico.com/news/2020/11/03/judge-postal-service-unsent-ballots-433958>

rural communities – are relying on the efficient and timely delivery of bills, parcels, and medication from the Postal Service. We do not doubt that the Postal Service requires some thoughtful reforms in order to continue to provide excellent service to the American people in the years to come; however, there is a plethora of evidence that Postmaster General DeJoy is not equipped to meet the rigors of these challenges. Filling the vacant seats on the Postal Service’s Board of Governors with strong, passionate advocates for the institution will allow it to function in a nonpartisan manner, and will allow the Board to seriously consider whether the current Postmaster General is suitable to continue in his role.

We thank you for your consideration of this important request and look forward to working with you as you take decisive steps to secure one of our country’s oldest, most cherished, and most valuable public institutions.

Sincerely,

Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress

Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress

Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress

Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress

Grace F. Napolitano
Member of Congress

Brian Higgins
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress

Peter Welch
Member of Congress

Betty McCollum
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

Tim Ryan
Member of Congress

Mike Quigley
Member of Congress

Susan Wild
Member of Congress

Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress

Tom Malinowski
Member of Congress

Mary Gay Scanlon
Member of Congress

Sean Casten
Member of Congress

Mike Thompson
Member of Congress

Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress

Jim Costa
Member of Congress

Chellie Pingree

Gwen Moore

Alcee L. Hastings

Member of Congress

Suzan K. DelBene
Member of Congress

Jennifer Wexton
Member of Congress

Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress

Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress

Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress

David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress

Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

Rick Larsen
Member of Congress

Bonnie Watson Coleman
Member of Congress

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress

Adriano Espaillat
Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress

Mark Takano
Member of Congress

Andy Kim
Member of Congress

Al Lawson
Member of Congress

Colin Allred
Member of Congress

Marie Newman
Member of Congress

John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress

Jared Huffman
Member of Congress

Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress

Deborah K. Ross
Member of Congress

Jake Auchincloss
Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress

Doris Matsui
Member of Congress

Angie Craig
Member of Congress

Dwight Evans
Member of Congress

Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress

Dina Titus
Member of Congress

Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress

Steve Cohen
Member of Congress

Jason Crow
Member of Congress

Jackie Speier
Member of Congress

Yvette D. Clarke
Member of Congress

G. K. Butterfield
Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

Lisa Blunt Rochester
Member of Congress

Marcy Kaptur
Member of Congress

Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress

Mike Doyle
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress

Sheila Jackson Lee
Member of Congress

Abigail Spanberger
Member of Congress

Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress

Kathy Manning
Member of Congress

Chris Pappas
Member of Congress

Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress

Bill Foster
Member of Congress

Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress

Ro Khanna
Member of Congress

David E. Price
Member of Congress

Jesús G. “Chuy” García
Member of Congress

C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger
Member of Congress

Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress

William R. Keating
Member of Congress

Vincente Gonzalez
Member of Congress

Darren Soto
Member of Congress