

# DELIVERY AND LOGISTICS

PRINTING United Alliance seeks to preserve the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) as a key delivery channel of print and packages, seeks solutions to global supply chain concerns, addresses tariffs impacting the printing industry, and encourages competitive transportation costs.

## **U.S. Postal Service: A Key Delivery Channel**

The U.S. Postal Service (USPS) is a critical, constitutionally authorized institution and the only courier capable of (and mandated to) deliver mail and packages to every address in America. The printing industry is dependent upon an efficient, reliable, ubiquitous, and affordable universal postal system that combines and fully serves both mail and packages. Unfortunately, the USPS twice-per-year rate hikes have had a devastating effect on PRINTING United Alliance members and the printing industry. Price hikes are driving disastrous declines in mail volume. Those declines are seriously harming the postal service's traditional customer base, which still accounts for more than fifty percent of the USPS's revenue. For small businesses, which most printing companies are defined as, the implications for affordability and retention of business are enormous. In addition, the USPS has failed to meet mail delivery performance standards, with delays impacting constituents across the nation.

## **Global Supply Chain Solutions**

Manufacturers, including the printing industry, depend on modern transportation, supply chain, and infrastructure to meet the demands of a global 21st century economy. During the pandemic access to raw materials – paper, most notably, and technical inputs, such as ink and print equipment components, became limited. These disruptions required innovative business strategies, versatility, and agility to provide print, an essential product. To meet such challenges U.S. shipping and transportation supply chain policy must promote domestic production and manufacturing and remain focused on efficiency and the maintenance of operational order. America needs a resilient supply chain and a level playing field to effectively compete in the global marketplace.

## **Tariffs Impacting Print and Packaging**

The printing industry has faced cost increases and supply chain uncertainty due to Section 301 and Section 232 (i.e., steel and aluminum) tariffs on inputs necessary to printing and packaging production. The U.S. needs a clear and transparent China trade strategy that addresses the ongoing underlying unfair trade practices. The Section 301 tariffs continue to harm American companies and consumers and have failed to change China's behavior, as intended. According to the Tax Foundation, Section 232 tariffs on imports of steel and aluminum raised the cost of production for manufacturers, reducing employment in those industries, raising prices for consumers, and hurting exports. Repealing the Section 232 tariffs would increase long-run GDP by 0.02 percent and create more than 4,000 jobs.

## Actions for Leaders to Take

- Closely examine the USPS 10-year Delivering for America (DFA) plan, which outlines the twice-a-year rate hikes, and enact legislation to clarify the mandate and powers of the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) to ensure that it can effectively protect the public interest.
- Continue to play a vital role in oversight of the USPS Board of Governors (BOG) and USPS strategic plans to ensure citizens continue to have access to universal, affordable, and reliable mail delivery.
- Establish domestic policies aimed at preventing supply chain disruptions, bolstering critical supply chains, investing in shared supply chains, and encouraging friend-shoring and near-shoring.
- Reauthorize the Defense Production Act (DPA), which is set to expire in September 2025, to ensure that American industry has the capability and capacity to meet our nation's national security needs.
- Approve legislation to reassert congressional authority over Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act of 1962, by requiring the President to submit to Congress any proposal to adjust imports in the interest of national security.
- Approve legislation calling for the removal of the Section 232 tariffs and quotas on steel and aluminum and Section 301 tariffs on imports from China. Barring removal of Section 301 tariffs, ensure the printing industry has access to a transparent, streamlined, and evidence-based system to request Section 301 tariff exclusions when necessary.
- Quickly, retroactively, renew expired trade preference programs including the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP), which provide sourcing alternatives to China, as well as the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill (MTB), which provides temporary duty benefits for U.S. manufacturers and businesses.

## About **PRINTING United Alliance**

*PRINTING United Alliance, the most comprehensive printing and graphic arts trade association in the U.S., is built by and for printers and professionals in the industrial, graphic, garment, textile, electronics, packaging, and commercial printing markets. Find more information about the Alliance at: <https://www.printing.org/> or send an email to [govtaffairs@printing.org](mailto:govtaffairs@printing.org).*