

February 3, 2022

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney Chair Committee on Oversight U.S. House of Representatives 2157 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Jim Comer Ranking Member Committee on Oversight U.S. House of Representatives 2157 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

CC: Members of the U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Chairwoman Maloney and Ranking Member Comer,

As a former Member of Congress and executive director of Keep US Posted, an alliance consisting of members of the American public and consumer interests, as well as Market Dominant mailing industry organizations and businesses, I am writing to thank you for your leadership in introducing and passing postal reform legislation through your committee and express our strong support for House passage of the Postal Service Reform Act of 2021 (H.R. 3076). The U.S. Postal Service is a critical institution that is not only woven into the historical legacy and fabric of our nation but is also a vital lifeline for our nation's collective livelihood and functionality. It plays a tremendously important role for consumers and businesses that represent its customer base, subject to its monopoly privileges, and collectively represents an industry that generates approximately \$1.6 trillion in annual revenues and employs more than seven million workers.

Keep US Posted was formed to give USPS customers—individual members of the mailing public and industry alike—a voice in postal policy. We recognize that the postal services our nation values and requires depend upon a healthy customer base and a healthy USPS.

The Postal Service Reform Act of 2021 is the greatest opportunity for positive, bipartisan postal policy in more than a decade, and it is desperately needed. The legislation and its critical package of reforms emerged from joint efforts on the part of USPS management, labor unions, and customer stakeholders to find consensus on critical policies to preserve the Postal Service and its ability to deliver for the American people. Most importantly, the legislation is critical to fixing long-standing financial challenges stemming from the 2006 Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act, which imposed an unsustainable and crippling pre-funding requirement for retiree health care costs. To address this issue, the Postal Service Reform Act strikes a delicate and necessary balance; it ensures that obligations to postal workers can be met on a sustainable basis by allowing future USPS retirees to access the benefits from Medicare for which they have paid.

Keep US Posted also strongly supports the provisions in Section 202 of the legislation because they ensure that the USPS provides universal service for mail and packages alike at least six days each week through an integrated delivery network. Section 202 maintains critical service for the American public and allows the U.S. Postal Service to capture economies of scope and scale using the most efficient methods to deliver mail and packages. Without such codification of an integrated network for packages and delivery, we could face increased postal costs for businesses and consumers, as well as more mail delays.

The importance of a sustainable Postal Service should now be clear to everyone as it begins to deliver COVID-19 testing kits throughout the nation and remains the only network capable of reaching every address in the country six and seven days each week.

As a former Member of Congress, I urge all Members to recognize the rare bipartisan, even nonpartisan, opportunity offered by The Postal Service Reform Act of 2021. The legislation helps guarantee that the Postal Service will remain funded by postage, not taxpayer funding, as it continues its critical functionality as the only courier able to go the last mile to serve every part of the country, no matter how remote. Keep US Posted supports prompt action for H.R. 3076 on the House floor as soon as possible and its approval by the Senate as soon as possible.

Virtually every business and person in the United States relies on the U.S. Postal Service. That is why it generated \$77 billion in operating revenue in 2022 and why it's too big—and too crucial to our way of life—to fail. We strongly urge the passage of the Postal Service Reform Act to keep the U.S. Postal Service delivering for all of us.

Thank you for your efforts thus far. We are committed to offering any possible assistance to ensure that the bill becomes law this year.

Sincerely,

Kevin Yoder Former Member of Congress (KS-03) Executive Director, Keep US Posted

