

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

July 31, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol, H-232  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
U.S. Capitol, S-230  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
U.S. Capitol, H-204  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
U.S. Capitol, S-221  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader McConnell, Minority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader McCarthy,

As negotiations over Phase 4 COVID-19 relief legislation continue, we urge you to continue to include strong support for the United States Postal Service (USPS) in any final relief legislation.

On April 9, 2020 Postmaster General Megan Brennan informed the House Committee on Oversight and Reform that the Postal Service anticipates a loss of \$13 billion in 2020 and \$54.3 billion over the next ten years as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. The CARES Act provided USPS an additional \$10 billion in borrowing authority from the Treasury, which the Postal Service later confirmed would provide them “sufficient liquidity to continue operating through May 2021.”<sup>1</sup> Additionally, in May 2020, the House of Representatives passed the HEROES Act, which contained an additional \$25 billion in emergency appropriations for USPS.

Despite these emergency measures, there is substantial cause for concern. First, USPS has just recently entered into an agreement with the Treasury Department to access the additional borrowing authority granted by the CARES Act. To date, the Treasury Department has not disclosed what those conditions are to Congress. While revenue losses have thankfully not been as severe as anticipated, the Treasury Department imposing its own hidden and potentially arbitrary requirements to release Congressionally-approved funds violates the intent of the CARES Act and subverts Congressional authority. The HEROES Act rightfully includes language that would prevent the Treasury Department from establishing arbitrary criteria for USPS’ CARES Act borrowing authority. This provision has bipartisan support in the Senate,<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> United States Postal Regulatory Commission. (2020, May 8). *Quarterly Report*. Retrieved from <https://about.usps.com/what/financials/financial-conditions-results-reports/fy2020-q2.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> United States Senator Diane Feinstein. (2020, July 6). *Feinstein, Collins Bill Would Provide Postal Service up to \$25 Billion in Emergency Relief* [Press release]. Retrieved from

and in any final Phase 4 legislation, Congress must continue to ensure that USPS' access to CARES Act borrowing authority is not impeded.

Second, the new Postmaster General Louis DeJoy has begun to implement new operational standards designed to reduce expenses by cutting postal workers' ability to work overtime. While the USPS OIG has found in 2019 that the amount of overtime hours worked has increased from Fiscal Year 2012 through Fiscal Year 2018<sup>3</sup>, Postmaster General DeJoy's new requirements have rendered postal workers unable to deliver mail in a timely manner. As the number of COVID-19 cases continue to rise nationwide, the likelihood of voters utilizing mail-in ballots to protect themselves and their families has increased. The potential for votes to go uncounted, or for their delivery to be delayed as a result of the Postmaster General's new requirements, threatens the integrity of the upcoming election. In any final Phase 4 legislation, Congress must mandate that USPS return to operational standards as they were on June 14, 2020, immediately prior to Louis DeJoy joining USPS.

As we continue to grapple with COVID-19, it is imperative that we maintain our support for one of our country's oldest, most cherished, and most valuable institutions. We thank you for your consideration of these important requests.

Sincerely,

/s/ Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.  
ALMA S. ADAMS, PH.D.  
Member of Congress

/s/ Peter A. DeFazio  
PETER A. DEFAZIO  
Member of Congress

/s/ Carolyn B. Maloney  
CAROLYN B. MALONEY  
Member of Congress

/s/ Gerald E. Connolly  
GERALD E. CONNOLLY  
Member of Congress

/s/ Raúl M. Grijalva  
Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress

/s/ Peter Welch  
Peter Welch  
Member of Congress

/s/ Al Lawson  
AL LAWSON  
Member of Congress

/s/ Terri A. Sewell  
TERRI A. SEWELL  
Member of Congress

<https://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases?id=EB8389B7-AEB5-4E71-B51A-33467FE05822>

<sup>3</sup>, United States Postal Service Office of Inspector General. (2019, June 13). *Audit Report: Mail Processing Overtime*. Retrieved from [https://www.uspsoig.gov/sites/default/files/document-library-files/2019/NO-AR-19-005\\_0.pdf](https://www.uspsoig.gov/sites/default/files/document-library-files/2019/NO-AR-19-005_0.pdf)

/s/ Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
 SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Eleanor Holmes Norton  
 ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Thomas R. Suozzi  
 THOMAS R. SUOZZI  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Yvette D. Clarke  
 YVETTE D. CLARKE  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Donald S. Beyer, Jr.  
 DONALD S. BEYER, JR.  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Lucille Roybal-Allard  
 LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Zoe Lofgren  
 ZOE LOFGREN  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Debbie Dingell  
 DEBBIE DINGELL  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Bill Pascrell, Jr.  
 BILL PASCRELL, JR.  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Lori Trahan  
 LORI TRAHAN  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Anthony G. Brown  
 ANTHONY G. BROWN  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Rashida Tlaib  
 RASHIDA TLAIB  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Tim Ryan  
 TIM RYAN  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Stephen F. Lynch  
 STEPHEN F. LYNCH  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Alcee L. Hastings  
 ALCEE L. HASTINGS  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Vicente Gonzalez  
 VICENTE GONZALEZ  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Betty McCollum  
 BETTY MCCOLLUM  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Joe Courtney  
 JOE COURTNEY  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Brenda L. Lawrence  
BRENDA L. LAWRENCE  
Member of Congress

/s/ Mike Thompson  
MIKE THOMPSON  
Member of Congress

/s/ James R. Langevin  
JAMES R. LANGEVIN  
Member of Congress

/s/ Danny K. Davis  
DANNY K. DAVIS  
Member of Congress

/s/ Jackie Speier  
JACKIE SPEIER  
Member of Congress

/s/ Mark Pocan  
MARK POCAN  
Member of Congress

/s/ Jennifer Wexton  
JENNIFER WEXTON  
Member of Congress

/s/ Eric Swalwell  
ERIC SWALWELL  
Member of Congress

/s/ Earl Blumenauer  
EARL BLUMENAUER  
Member of Congress

/s/ Marcy Kaptur  
MARCY KAPTUR  
Member of Congress

/s/ Brian Higgins  
BRIAN HIGGINS  
Member of Congress

/s/ Susan A. Davis  
SUSAN A. DAVIS  
Member of Congress

/s/ Chellie Pingree  
CHELLIE PINGREE  
Member of Congress

/s/ Pramila Jayapal  
PRAMILA JAYAPAL  
Member of Congress

/s/ James P. McGovern  
JAMES P. MCGOVERN  
Member of Congress

/s/ Bonnie Watson Coleman  
BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN  
Member of Congress

/s/ Ed Case  
ED CASE  
Member of Congress

/s/ Deb Haaland  
DEB HAALAND  
Member of Congress

/s/ Frank Pallone, Jr.  
FRANK PALLONE, JR.  
Member of Congress

/s/ Susan Wild  
SUSAN WILD  
Member of Congress

/s/ Jamie Raskin  
JAMIE RASKIN  
Member of Congress

/s/ Brendan F. Boyle  
BRENDAN F. BOYLE  
Member of Congress

/s/ Filemon Vela  
FILEMON VELA  
Member of Congress

/s/ Barbara Lee  
BARBARA LEE  
Member of Congress

/s/ Kathy Castor  
KATHY CASTOR  
Member of Congress

/s/ Jim Himes  
JIM HIMES  
Member of Congress

/s/ Jim Costa  
JIM COSTA  
Member of Congress

/s/ Lisa Blunt Rochester  
LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER  
Member of Congress

/s/ Max Rose  
MAX ROSE  
Member of Congress

/s/ Bill Foster  
BILL FOSTER  
Member of Congress

/s/ C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger  
C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER  
Member of Congress

/s/ Katie Porter  
KATIE PORTER  
Member of Congress

/s/ Mark DeSaulnier  
MARK DESAULNIER  
Member of Congress

/s/ Jimmy Panetta  
JIMMY PANETTA  
Member of Congress

/s/ Nydia M. Velázquez  
NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ  
Member of Congress

/s/ William R. Keating  
WILLIAM R. KEATING  
Member of Congress

/s/ Alan Lowenthal  
ALAN LOWENTHAL  
Member of Congress

/s/ Gregory W. Meeks  
GREGORY W. MEEKS  
Member of Congress

/s/ Ayanna Pressley  
AYANNA PRESSLEY  
Member of Congress

/s/ André Carson  
ANDRÉ CARSON  
Member of Congress

/s/ Jerrold Nadler  
JERROLD NADLER  
Member of Congress

/s/ Ann McLane Kuster  
ANN MCLANE KUSTER  
Member of Congress

/s/ Marcia L. Fudge  
MARCIA L. FUDGE  
Member of Congress

/s/ Eddie Bernice Johnson  
EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON  
Member of Congress

/s/ Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ  
Member of Congress

/s/ Karen Bass  
KAREN BASS  
Member of Congress

/s/ Stephanie Murphy  
STEPHANIE MURPHY  
Member of Congress

/s/ Marc Veasey  
MARC VEASEY  
Member of Congress

/s/ Colin Allred  
COLIN ALLRED  
Member of Congress

/s/ Linda T. Sánchez  
LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ  
Member of Congress

/s/ David Price  
DAVID PRICE  
Member of Congress

/s/ Joseph P. Kennedy, III  
JOSEPH P. KENNEDY, III  
Member of Congress

/s/ Grace Meng  
GRACE MENG  
Member of Congress

/s/ Mark Takano  
MARK TAKANO  
Member of Congress

/s/ Jerry McNerney  
JERRY MCNERNEY  
Member of Congress

/s/ Joyce Beatty  
JOYCE BEATTY  
Member of Congress

/s/ David N. Cicilline  
DAVID N. CICILLINE  
Member of Congress

/s/ Jimmy Gomez  
JIMMY GOMEZ  
Member of Congress

/s/ Lauren Underwood  
LAUREN UNDERWOOD  
Member of Congress

/s/ Nanette Diaz Barragán  
NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN  
Member of Congress

/s/ Denny Heck  
DENNY HECK  
Member of Congress

/s/ Grace F. Napolitano  
GRACE F. NAPOLITANO  
Member of Congress

/s/ Joaquin Castro  
JOAQUIN CASTRO  
Member of Congress

/s/ TJ Cox  
TJ COX  
Member of Congress

/s/ A. Donald McEachin  
A. DONALD MCEACHIN  
Member of Congress

/s/ Dwight Evans  
DWIGHT EVANS  
Member of Congress

/s/ Jason Crow  
JASON CROW  
Member of Congress

/s/ Robert. C. "Bobby" Scott  
ROBERT. C. "BOBBY" SCOTT  
Member of Congress

/s/ Steve Cohen  
STEVE COHEN  
Member of Congress

/s/ Adam Smith  
ADAM SMITH  
Member of Congress

/s/ Julia Brownley  
JULIA BROWNLEY  
Member of Congress

/s/ Jim Cooper  
JIM COOPER  
Member of Congress

/s/ Mikie Sherrill  
 MIKIE SHERRILL  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Ro Khanna  
 RO KHANNA  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Angie Craig  
 ANGIE CRAIG  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Dina Titus  
 DINA TITUS  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Cheri Bustos  
 CHERI BUSTOS  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Hakeem Jeffries  
 HAKEEM JEFFRIES  
 Member of Congress

/s/ John Yarmuth  
 JOHN YARMUTH  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Mike Levin  
 MIKE LEVIN  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Sean Patrick Maloney  
 SEAN PATRICK MALONEY  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Sean Casten  
 SEAN CASTEN  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Lois Frankel  
 LOIS FRANKEL  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Doris Matsui  
 DORIS MATSUI  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Jan Schakowsky  
 JAN SCHAKOWSKY  
 Member of Congress

/s/ John Garamendi  
 JOHN GARAMENDI  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Robin L. Kelly  
 ROBIN L. KELLY  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Bradley S. Schneider  
 BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER  
 Member of Congress

/s/ John P. Sarbanes  
 JOHN P. SARBANES  
 Member of Congress

/s/ Scott Peters  
 SCOTT PETERS  
 Member of Congress



/s/ G. K. Butterfield  
G. K. BUTTERFIELD  
Member of Congress

/s/ Mike Quigley  
MIKE QUIGLEY  
Member of Congress

/s/ Tom Malinowski  
TOM MALINOWSKI  
Member of Congress

/s/ John B. Larson  
JOHN B. LARSON  
Member of Congress

/s/ Emanuel Cleaver, II  
EMANUEL CLEAVER, II  
Member of Congress

/s/ Lloyd Doggett  
LLOYD DOGGETT  
Member of Congress

/s/ Adriano Espaillat  
ADRIANO ESPAILLAT  
Member of Congress

/s/ Sharice L. Davids  
SHARICE L. DAVIDS  
Member of Congress

/s/ Mike Doyle  
MIKE DOYLE  
Member of Congress

/s/ Mary Gay Scanlon  
MARY GAY SCANLON  
Member of Congress

/s/ Jared Huffman  
JARED HUFFMAN  
Member of Congress