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August 20, 2020

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the 3 million members of the NEA who live and work in communities of all sizes across the nation, we urge you to vote YES on the Delivering for America Act (H.R. 8015), which would provide \$25 billion in immediate relief for the United States Postal Service (USPS). Votes on this issue may be included in NEA's Report Card for the 116th Congress.

A reliable means of providing access to secure and private mail was considered by our Founding Fathers to be so essential that they bestowed upon Congress constitutional authority to "establish post offices and post roads." Today's USPS stems from that authority; historically, it is an institution that serves all communities, regardless of race, income, or other factors. The USPS is particularly vital to certain groups—including members of the Armed Forces. Service members count on updates from home during lengthy and dangerous deployments, and their families are comforted by correspondence from their loved ones. Retired educators, disabled veterans, other retirees, and individuals who are homebound, or live in rural areas or other places where pharmacies are not accessible, depend on the life-saving medications the Postal Service delivers. Americans rely on the USPS for crucial mail, including paychecks, retirement benefits, packages, and absentee ballots that allow them to have a say in our democracy—ballots by which many citizens will choose to vote during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Americans hold the USPS in high esteem: In a Harris poll conducted in June, [the Postal Service was ranked number one](#) in terms of trustworthiness and responsiveness when compared with a variety of corporations. We not only rely on the United States Postal Service; we have faith in it.

The USPS is even more essential during this once-in-a-century pandemic. Yet, the Trump administration and Postmaster General Louis DeJoy have undermined it by implementing harmful changes. Although Mr. DeJoy, bowing to pressure, now says he will postpone the remainder of these changes until after the election, he has not committed to reversing the damage he has already done by deactivating sorting machines, removing hundreds of mailboxes, and cutting back overtime. This shows disrespect for the USPS employees who have been on the frontlines throughout the pandemic, disdain for the American people, and disregard for our Constitution. We must ensure that all citizens can rely on the Postal Service, and to provide those assurances, we urge you to vote YES on the Delivering for America Act.

Sincerely,

Marc Egan
Director of Government Relations
National Education Association