January 31, 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

Dear Chairwoman Maloney and Ranking Member Comer,

On behalf of the Greeting Card Association (GCA), I am writing to offer strong support for the Postal Service Reform Act of 2021 (H.R. 3076). For more than a decade, on behalf of its members and America’s citizen mailers, the GCA has supported consensus-based, comprehensive reform legislation to address the unintended consequences of the 2006 Postal Accountability and Enhancement reform law and the many new challenges the USPS and its customers have faced since its enactment.

More than half of all greeting cards sold are delivered to their final recipients by the USPS. The long-term health and reliability of the USPS is a critical factor in the success of the greeting card industry that generates nearly 2 billion highly valued mail pieces each year, providing highly desirable red-carpet experiences for recipients at their mailbox.

H.R. 3076 incorporates numerous commonsense reforms to rationalize USPS expenses for health care while ensuring that the critical standard of 6-day mail delivery from a unified delivery network for mail and packages is maintained. When enacted, these reforms will have a profound impact on improving the USPS’s financial stability, augmenting the COVID-19 relief Congress provided and better-than-expected revenue for the USPS during the period of the pandemic.

As we have discussed with your staff, we think it is critical that the Postal Regulatory Commission re-evaluate its decision to expand the rate cap for Market Dominant mail products and urge you to support this requirement in the FY2022 Financial Services and General Government funding bill that we expect to be finalized at the end of the year.

We support prompt action for H.R. 3076 on the House floor at the earliest possible date and its approval by the Senate as soon as possible. Your leadership in this Congress has brought us closer to the enactment of needed postal reform than at any point in the last decade. We commend you for your efforts so far and are committed to offering any possible assistance to ensure that your bill becomes law this year.

Sincerely,

Amy McAnarney
President, Greeting Card Association
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
September 1, 2021

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

Dear Chairwoman Maloney and Ranking Member Comer,

On behalf of the Greeting Card Association (GCA), I am writing to offer strong support for the Postal Service Reform Act of 2021 (H.R. 3076). For more than a decade, on behalf of its members and America’s citizen mailers, the GCA has supported consensus-based, comprehensive reform legislation to address the unintended consequences of the 2006 Postal Accountability and Enhancement reform law and the many new challenges the USPS and its customers have faced since its enactment.

More than half of all greeting cards sold are delivered to their final recipients by the USPS. The long-term health and reliability of the USPS is a critical factor in the success of the greeting card industry that generates nearly 2 billion highly valued mail pieces each year, providing highly desirable red-carpet experiences for recipients at their mailbox.

H.R. 3076 incorporates numerous commonsense reforms to rationalize USPS expenses for health care while ensuring that the critical standard of 6-day mail delivery from a unified delivery network for mail and packages is maintained. When enacted, these reforms will have a profound impact on improving the USPS’s financial stability, augmenting the COVID-19 relief Congress provided and better-than-expected revenue for the USPS during the period of the pandemic.

As we have discussed with your staff, we think it is critical that the Postal Regulatory Commission re-evaluate its decision to expand the rate cap for Market Dominant mail products and urge you to support this requirement in the FY2022 Financial Services and General Government funding bill that we expect to be finalized at the end of the year.

We support prompt action for H.R. 3076 on the House floor at the earliest possible date and its approval by the Senate as soon as possible. Your leadership in this Congress has brought us closer to the enactment of needed postal reform than at any point in the last decade. We commend you for your efforts so far and are committed to offering any possible assistance to ensure that your bill becomes law this year.

Sincerely,

George White
President, Greeting Card Association
February 2, 2022

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney
Chair, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable James Comer
Ranking Republican, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair Maloney and Ranking Member Comer:

On behalf of the National Association of Postal Supervisors (NAPS), which represents the supervisors, managers and postmasters of the U.S. Postal Service, we write to express our strong support for House passage of H.R. 3076, the Postal Reform Act of 2022. If enacted, this legislation would represent a positive and meaningful step forward to help stabilize postal finances and restore operational effectiveness. Postal stabilization and restoration are vital goals because the agency has once again confirmed its pivotal role as a vital component of the nation’s essential infrastructure. The Postal Service has demonstrated its importance to our country, most recently, though the delivery of much-needed COVID-19 antigen tests to the American public in their mailbox.

NAPS also commends the bipartisanship that characterized your legislative effort. As such, we urge your House colleagues to vote “yes” when the bill is considered on the floor. NAPS recognizes that this is the first step in a broader legislative effort to support postal innovation, ensure prompt mail delivery, and provide fairness in workforce protections for postal managers and supervisors. NAPS looks forward to working with you to complete this important effort.

H.R. 3076 addresses two key NAPS priorities: repeal of the punitive and burdensome requirement that the Postal Service prefund its retirees’ health liabilities and reduce health liabilities without adversely impacting the earned benefits of postal employees. These provisions provide the agency with much-needed financial breathing space. NAPS commends those who crafted and perfected the measure for “threading the needle.”

In addition, the legislation clarifies the authority of the Postal Service to enter into intergovernmental agreements with federal, state and municipal agencies to offer specified non-postal products and services. Such products and services will increase public access to many governmental services. We hope that such services may be expanded in the future. The legislation also seeks to improve postal performance transparency by directing the Postal Service to establish a convenient online portal providing customer access to postal performance by zip code. One final area of immense importance is the statutory confirmation that the Postal Service provide a 6-day integrated delivery network that does not discriminate among the variety of postal products.

Representing supervisors, managers and postmasters in the United States Postal Service
Once again, NAPS supports passage of H.R. 3076 and will seek prompt Senate passage to hasten its enactment into law. We look forward to work with the Committee leadership as other constructive postal legislation is being considered by Congress.

Sincerely,

Ivan D. Butts
President

Chuck Mulidore
Executive Vice President

Jimmy Warden
Secretary/Treasurer
February 2, 2022

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Oversight and Reform  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Postal Service Reform Act (HR 3076)

Chairwoman Maloney and Ranking Member Comer,

Thank you both for working in a bipartisan fashion to support the essential work of the U.S. Postal Service (USPS). As one of the world’s leading paper manufacturers, Sylvamo relies upon the USPS’s continued success and we appreciate your efforts to ensure that the USPS remains a competitive and financially viable organization.

Headquartered in Memphis, Tennessee, with significant manufacturing facilities in New York and South Carolina, Sylvamo employs over 1,800 colleagues in the U.S. who make and sell copy paper, commercial printing, converting, and specialty papers. Our purpose is to produce the paper our customers need in the most responsible and sustainable ways, and in doing that, Sylvamo manufactures 35% of the paper sent through the USPS. Our customers—ranging from small local businesses to leading retailers—produce paper billing statements, ballots, pension and retirement statements, and the envelopes that carry them.

Sylvamo and our customers rely on a sustainable and affordable USPS as a supply chain partner and we offer our support for the Postal Service Reform Act (HR 3076). This legislation will strengthen the USPS’s balance sheet, help position them to better serve their customers, and reduce the need for future rate increases. In particular, we support Medicare integration for USPS’s retirees, the long overdue repeal of the retiree healthcare funding mandate, and the codification of six-day mail delivery.

In addition, it is critically important that the USPS maintains service standards to prevent delays in mail delivery, which would lead to USPS customers exiting the mail stream. We are pleased to see a focus on service standard metrics. Strong standards are essential to growing consumer confidence in the USPS and ensuring that businesses and communities receive the service they expect.

We urge every Member of the House to vote “aye” on this critical, bipartisan legislation.

Thank you for your leadership on this important package of postal reforms. Please contact me or Brett Doyle (Brett.Doyle@sylvamo.com) for additional perspectives.

Thank you,

Elizabeth Bartheld  
Vice President, Global Government Relations  
Sylvamo
February 2, 2022

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney  
Chairwoman  
Committee on Oversight and Reform  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable James Comer  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Oversight and Reform  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairwoman Maloney and Ranking Member Comer,

Thank you for your leadership in introducing H.R. 3076 – the Postal Service Reform Act of 2021. During the pandemic, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) has proven to be a critical lifeline to many Americans, delivering essential household items, supplies, and medicines across the country. H.R. 3076 will help strengthen the USPS’s financial footing. It will also ensure the agency can continue to provide reliable service to the American people and serve as an excellent delivery and logistics provider in the years ahead.

We strongly support this legislation and appreciate your leadership in passing H.R. 3076 out of the Committee on Oversight and Reform. In particular, we support Section 202 of H.R. 3076, which requires the Postal Service to maintain an integrated delivery network of mail and packages at least six days per week like it has done for decades. Americans across the country have long depended on the USPS for its reliable and affordable delivery options. Codifying these essential services is critical now more than ever, as families and businesses are increasingly relying on vital mail and package deliveries.

At Amazon, we like to think of the USPS as our first and oldest business partner. Starting in 1994, our founder Jeff Bezos, would pack up books for sale in a garage in Seattle and drive them to his local post office, where he knew he could count on the USPS to deliver them. Today, we work hand-in-hand with the USPS to provide excellent service and innovate for our customers. Our partnership is mutually beneficial. Experts and impartial regulators have consistently recognized the USPS’s partnerships with companies, like Amazon, as a bright spot of growth and profitability for the agency. Notably, in 2021, packages contributed over $13 billion in profit for the USPS. We’re proud of our partnership with the USPS and plan to continue working with the agency to deliver for our customers in the future.

Thank you again for your steadfast leadership in addressing the long-term viability of the USPS. We hope Congress can act quickly to pass the bipartisan Postal Service Reform Act and we look forward to working with you as this bill moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Brian Huseman  
Vice President, Public Policy
February 1, 2022

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney  
Chair  
Committee on Oversight  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2157 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC  20515

The Honorable Jim Comer  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Oversight  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2157 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC  20515

Dear Chairwoman Maloney and Ranking Member Comer,

On behalf of Hallmark Cards, Inc., I am writing to thank you for your leadership in introducing and successfully reporting out of your committee the Postal Service Reform Act of 2021 (H.R. 3076), and to offer my support for its prompt consideration by the House and Senate. For more than a decade, Hallmark’s top public policy objective has been the enactment of comprehensive, consensus-based postal reform legislation. Over the years, I have contacted Members of Congress, provided testimony before your committee, and worked to support the efforts of your predecessors to advance this critical legislation. I remain committed to doing anything that would be similarly helpful to you for your current effort.

The USPS is a key business partner for Hallmark. We work together to offer greeting cards in 13,500 post offices throughout the country and Puerto Rico and to develop innovative solutions that motivate our customers to use the USPS to deliver cards. More than half of all greeting cards sold are delivered to their final recipients by the USPS. We believe the USPS is an essential service, not only for our company but also our industry and the country as a whole.

H.R. 3076 reflects numerous, commonsense reforms and cost savings while ensuring that the critical standard of six-day mail delivery from a unified delivery network for mail and packages is maintained. Coupled with the COVID-19 relief Congress provided, and better-than-expected revenue for the USPS during the period of the pandemic, these reforms will have a profound impact on improving the USPS’s financial stability.

Enacting this legislation is the essential first step to stabilizing the USPS and the industry it serves. The next key step is to require the Postal Regulatory Commission to re-evaluate its decision to expand the rate cap for Market Dominant mail products and set a limit that recognizes the benefits of H.R. 3076 and other factors like COVID-relief. I urge you to support a requirement for this rate review in the FY2022 Financial Services and General Government funding bill that is expected to be finalized at the end of the year.

In the meantime, I offer my full support for bringing H.R. 3076 to the House floor at the earliest possible opportunity, and I will be encouraging its approval by the Senate. Your efforts in this Congress have brought us closer to the enactment of postal reform than at any point in the last decade. Thank you for your work on this important issue, and please let me know if I can do anything to assist you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Don Hall, Jr.
September 20, 2021

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney  
Chair  
Committee on Oversight  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2157 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Maloney,

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In the meantime, I offer my full support for bringing H.R. 3076 to the House floor at the earliest possible opportunity, and I will be encouraging its approval by the Senate. Your efforts in this Congress have brought us closer to the enactment of postal reform than at any point in the last decade. Thank you for your work on this important issue, and please let me know if I can do anything to assist you.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Don Hall, Jr.
February 3, 2022

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney
Chairwoman, Oversight and Reform Committee
2308 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James Comer
Ranking Member, Oversight and Reform Committee
2410 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Maloney and Ranking Member Comer,

As President of the National Rural Letter Carriers’ Association (NRLCA), one of the four major Postal Service union’s representing approximately 130,000 rural letter carriers across the United States, we want to thank you for your hard work on the bipartisan Postal Service Reform Act of 2021, H.R. 3076. The NRLCA believes that H.R. 3076, coupled with the Postal Service’s 10-year plan, will help the Postal Service achieve financial stability with the passage of this important piece of legislation. The NRLCA fully supports H.R. 3076, and we urge all members to vote in favor of this bill.

H.R. 3076 includes many key provisions the NRLCA has advocated for over the past several years. First, the legislation repeals the onerous pre-funding mandate that requires the Postal Service to prefund its retirees’ health benefits decades in advance. No other agency or corporation is required to prefund future retiree health benefits, let alone to fully prefund in just ten years.

Secondly, H.R. 3076 safeguards the provision in law to provide six-day mail delivery for every American. Delivering mail six, and now seven, days a week remains a critical competitive advantage for the Postal Service, especially in rural areas where the rural letter carriers deliver the “last mile”.

Finally, H.R. 3076 adopts private sector best practices by requiring Postal Service employees and retirees to enroll in Medicare. Currently, the Postal Service and its employees have contributed over $34 billion into Medicare. This legislation allows them to fully utilize the benefits that Medicare provides.

Once again, the NRLCA would like to thank Chairwoman Maloney and Ranking Member Comer for their work on the Postal Service Reform Act. This bipartisan legislation was voted unanimously out of committee, and the NRLCA fully supports the passage of this legislation that will help ensure financial stability for the Postal Service.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Stutts
President
National Rural Letter Carriers’ Association
February 3, 2022

Sent via e-mail to members of the United States House of Representatives

Dear Representative:

In advance of consideration of H.R. 3076, the Postal Service Reform Act of 2021, as amended, I write to share the views of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE) in support of the bill.

Notably, I write to express support for: (i) modifications, included in the manager’s amendment, to the bill approved by the House Oversight and Reform Committee that would prevent unintended increases to Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) plan premiums for all federal employees and retirees; (ii) modifications to provisions of postal bills from prior Congresses to preserve choice for current postal retirees regarding whether to enroll in Medicare Part B as a condition of continued receipt of their earned postal retiree health benefits; (iii) the bill’s repeal of the burdensome mandate to prefund future postal retiree health benefits; and (iv) the bill’s codification of mail delivery six days per week.

Postal retirees make up a substantial portion of NARFE’s membership. These postal retiree members, most of whom had long careers working for the Postal Service, care deeply about maintaining a strong and vibrant public postal service that meets the needs of American citizens. They believe, as does NARFE, that reliable mail delivery is an inherently governmental function. This bill will provide financial relief to the Postal Service that will improve its ability to remain a public entity providing a crucial service to the American people.

The bill does so primarily by reducing the Postal Service’s cost burden for providing retiree health benefits, which postal employees earn through their service. That burden is reduced by improving the integration between postal retiree health insurance and the Medicare program. For the Postal Service to realize the cost savings from this integration, the bill splits postal employees and retirees from FEHB into a new, parallel Postal Service Health Benefits (PSHB) program.

While NARFE would prefer the FEHB risk pool remain unified, we do not oppose this general construct, and recognize this option is the most politically viable path to providing the Postal Service financial relief. Furthermore, the language of the current bill addresses the concerns NARFE has raised in the past regarding the PSHB and Medicare integration provisions of the bill.

First, NARFE appreciates recent amendments to the bill that will prevent unintended average cost increases for FEHB plans. NARFE expressed concerns that the bill’s provisions to move most postal employees and retirees to the new PSHB but leave some postal retirees – those without Medicare coverage – in FEHB could result in increased
premiums for FEHB plans. Actuarial analysis confirmed those concerns, and in response, the language was amended to move all postal employees and retirees into the new PSHB. Updated analysis has shown this change will result in reduced premiums, all else equal, for both FEHB and PSHB plans.

Second, NARFE strongly supports provisions to exempt current postal retirees from Medicare enrollment requirements, instead applying such requirements prospectively. These provisions preserve choice for current postal retirees regarding whether to enroll in Medicare Part B, as they no longer add a condition to the continued receipt of their earned retiree health benefits. Previous postal reform bills would have required payment of additional premiums for this mostly duplicative health insurance coverage.

The Medicare integration construct also provides several benefits. First, integration with Medicare Part D would bring cost savings to PSHB plans, as will increased enrollment in Part B, which would grow over time. Second, the Medicare opt-in provisions for those age 65 and older also would provide postal retirees with a new opportunity to enroll in Medicare Part B without penalty, which would allow them to purchase additional (Part B) insurance should they choose to do so. With critical improvements incorporated into the bill, the Medicare integration construct preserves choice for postal retirees while reducing the cost of health insurance for all postal employees and retirees.

Third, NARFE also supports the repeal of the burdensome mandate to prefund future postal retiree health benefits. No other federal agency or private-sector company fully prefunds its retiree health benefits. Yet, the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (PAEA) of 2006 mandated specific, annual prefunding payments by USPS into the Retiree Health Benefits Fund (RHBF) over a 10-year period (2007-2016), followed by continued payments to fully cover the remaining liability for retiree health benefits as far as 75 years into the future. Even though the Postal Service has not made all the required payments, the liability remains current on its balance sheet and has led to cost-cutting strategies and limited investments. The mandate has failed to serve its purpose of protecting health benefits.

In fact, rather than protecting health benefits, the requirement has threatened them by undermining the financial stability of the Postal Service. It is important to note that even with the repeal of the prefunding mandate, the Postal Service would maintain its obligation to fund postal retiree health benefits. The repeal alone will not solve all of the Postal Service’s financial problems, but it is an important first step.

Finally, NARFE supports the bill’s provisions to codify the requirement that the Postal Service deliver mail six days per week, as it does today. While this requirement is typically written into annual appropriations bills, its inclusion in this bill will avoid the need to mandate the policy’s continuation from one year to the next. In so doing, it will provide assurance to businesses and households dependent on the consistent delivery schedule.
Conclusion

The Postal Service distributes mail to every address in America. Its universal service provides essential communication and transportation infrastructure for our national economy. Yet it has faced more than a decade of financial challenges as it operates under a restrictive legislative framework that needs reform.

Previous iterations of leading postal bills in this and past Congresses, while well-intentioned reform efforts, did not adequately protect the earned benefits of both postal retirees (due to a new requirement to enroll in Medicare after retirement) and non-postal federal employees and retirees (as an altered health insurance risk pool threatened unintended increases in health insurance premiums in the FEHB program). But the version before the House now has addressed these issues, protecting the interests of postal retirees and non-postal federal employees and retirees while also providing substantial financial relief to the Postal Service.

For these reasons, NARFE is grateful for the modifications from previous bills and encourages members of Congress to support the current bill.

Thank you for the consideration of our views. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact NARFE’s Staff Vice President for Policy and Programs, John Hatton, at jhatton@narfe.org.

Sincerely,

Ken Thomas
National President
February 3, 2022

Chairwoman Carolyn Maloney
Committee on Oversight & Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Ranking Member James Comer
Committee on Oversight & Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Maloney and Ranking Member Comer:

On behalf of the National Postal Mail Handlers Union, which represents over 50,000 postal mail handlers across the country, I endorse the bipartisan Postal Service Reform Act of 2021, H.R. 3076.

As you are aware, the bill would repeal the 2006 mandate requiring the Postal Service to prefund its retiree healthcare benefits; require future retirees and their annuitants to enroll in Medicare when eligible; provide agreements with state, local, and tribal governments to provide noncommercial services; and call upon the Postal Service to conduct studies on service standards and create a public facing dashboard, informing postal customers on delays.

By eliminating the prefunding mandate and calling for prospective integration into Medicare, the Postal Service would save $4.4 billion annually. No other private business or public agency prefunds their retiree healthcare, and postal employees have contributed over $35 billion to Medicare over the past four decades, while not fully taking advantage of its benefits. This is a commonsense solution that is supported by labor, management, Republicans, and Democrats alike.

Financial instability has mired the USPS for years. As this bill moves to right the agency’s fiscal ship, the Postal Service will be able to focus on revenue growth, improve performance, and support a sustainable workforce.

The NPMHU thanks both of you and your staff for your tireless work on H.R. 3076. Your dedication to the Postal Service and its employees is appreciated, and has played an important role in postal history.

Sincerely,

Paul V. Hogrogian
National President
Dear Chairwoman Maloney,

Publishers Clearing House (PCH) is writing to reaffirm our support of H.R. 3076 – the Postal Service Reform Act. In anticipation of the bill soon going to the floor for vote, we urge each Member of the House to vote in support this essential legislation to ensure the Postal Service can continue to serve as a critical component of America’s commerce.

By repealing the unaffordable prefunding of postal retiree health benefits and integrating postal annuitants who had not yet subscribed to Medicare, your bill contributes significantly toward stabilizing the finances of the Postal Service. And by mandating through statute, the existing integrated six-day delivery network, the most efficient and universal means for delivering mail and packages is ensured.

We appreciate your and your staff’s efforts in keeping this bill narrowly focused on the most critical elements for postal sustainability and service to the American public and commerce. We hope Congress can quickly pass this long-awaited Postal Service Reform Act.

Sincerely,

Andrew Goldberg
Chairman, President and CEO
February 1, 2022

The Hon. Carolyn Maloney                The Hon. James Comer
Chairwoman                              Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Reform       Committee on Oversight and Reform
U.S. House of Representatives           U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515                   Washington, DC 20515

Dear Madam Chairwoman and Ranking Member Comer:

As a small catalog merchants, The Vermont Country Store, Gardener’s Supply Company and King Arthur Baking depend on predictable, affordable rates and service from the U.S. Postal Service to ensure our catalogs reach the homes of our customers across the country. In recent years, our businesses have become increasingly affected by the degradation of U.S. Postal Service operations amid stiff rate increases, squeezing our thin margins and putting at stake the livelihoods of our employees at a very difficult. We view the Postal Service Reform Act, HR 3076, as an opportunity to help shift the USPS course toward a more positive path that will help improve its financial stability and ensure that everyone can afford to use and depend on postal delivery service.

We urge you and your colleagues in the House of Representatives to vote in favor of this critical, bipartisan legislation. Provisions like ending the prefunding of retiree pension benefits and mandating six-day delivery are a significant step forward, not only for companies like ours, but for citizens who rely on delivery of daily medications and for the long-term security of USPS employees as well.

Congressman Peter Welch, Vermont’s lone Representative in Congress and a Member of the Committee on Oversight and Reform, has supported these measures for some time. We appreciate his advocacy and yours in getting the Postal Service Reform act to the House floor for a vote, and hope that with your continued support, the bill will be passed and move on to its next phase of consideration in the Senate. We look forward to hearing good news in the days ahead.

Sincerely,

Jim Hall                                      Cindy Turcot                               Bill Tine
President & CEO                              President & CEO                           Chief Marketing Officer
The Vermont Country Store                     Gardener’s Supply Company                 King Arthur Baking

Cc: The Honorable Peter Welch
February 2, 2022

Dear Representative,

On behalf of the 650,000 postal employees and retirees represented by the American Postal Workers Union, the National Association of Letter Carriers, the National Postal Mail Handlers Union, and the National Rural Letter Carriers Association, we write to urge you to vote “YES” on the Postal Service Reform Act (H.R. 3076) when it comes to the floor.

Following years of debate to build consensus, it is time to pass this vital and carefully constructed legislation, a bipartisan compromise bill that will bring financial stability to the Postal Service. H.R. 3076 was adopted unanimously by the Committee on Oversight and Reform.

The legislation includes key provisions of importance to the men and women that we represent, the very backbone of the Postal Service. First, H.R. 3076 eliminates the mandate that the Postal Service prefund its retiree health care benefits decades in advance, a requirement asked of no other public or private agency. Second, this legislation adopts private sector best practice by maximizing the integration of postal employees and retirees into Medicare. The Postal Service and its workers have contributed over $34 billion to the Medicare program. Additionally, the legislation benefits all Americans by codifying in law the mandate to provide six-day mail delivery to all Americans, which has been required by an appropriation rider since the 1980s. Six-day service is critically important to the 159 million business and residential customers we serve every day.

The Postal Service is a self-sustaining, non-taxpayer funded agency and a vital public institution. To strengthen it and to restore its financial stability, the House of Representatives should pass this legislation. Such stability will allow the Postal Service to improve service and respond to the evolving needs of American businesses and the families it serves. H.R. 3076 is of utmost importance to the Postal Service and its employees who serve the communities you represent every day.

We urge you to vote “YES” on this critical legislation.

Sincerely,

Fredric V. Rolando
President
National Association of Letter Carriers

Mark Dimondstein
President
American Postal Workers Union

Paul V. Hogrogian
President
National Postal Mail Handlers Union

Ronnie W. Stutts
President
National Rural Letter Carriers Association

Cc: Office of President Joseph Biden
Dear Madam Chairwoman and Ranking Member Comer:

The Package Shippers Association thanks you for your tireless work in support of the Postal Service Reform Act, HR 3076, and fully concurs with the views expressed in the attached letter from the Coalition on a 21st Century Postal Service. A list of our members can be found at https://www.packageshippers.org. As this bill moves to the House floor, we are encouraging all of them to convey their support for this critical bipartisan legislation to their local Members of Congress.

Your bill addresses key issues facing the Postal Service including:

- mandating by statute the current integrated six-day delivery network for mail and packages ensuring continuation of universal service;
- continuing the universal, affordable delivery of medicines, masks and test kits;
- eliminating the unaffordable “prefunding” of postal retiree health benefits;
- integrating postal annuitants who had not yet subscribed to Medicare, that will contribute significantly toward stabilizing the finances of the Postal Service.;
- supporting the sustainability of rural newspapers.

Once again, we want to thank you both and your staffs for this very helpful legislation, which we hope will be on the House floor shortly.

Regards

Jim Cochrane  
Chief Executive Officer  
Package Shipping Association
February X, 2022

Dear Madam Chairwoman and Ranking Member Comer:

The undersigned organizations are pleased to offer their support for the Postal Service Reform Act, HR 3076, on the Floor of the House of Representatives. We urge every Member of the House to vote “aye” on this critical, bipartisan legislation.

By repealing the unaffordable “prefunding” of postal retiree health benefits and integrating postal annuitants who had not yet subscribed to Medicare, your bill contributes very heavily toward stabilizing the finances of the Postal Service. And by mandating codification of an integrated six-day delivery network, you ensure the most efficient and valuable means for delivering mail and packages, and remove it from the uncertainties of the annual appropriations process.

We also appreciate provisions in the bill that deal with rural newspaper sustainability, flats inefficiencies and more.

We are all part of the huge postal-reliant industry – mail, packages and our supply chain -- which, in 2019, accounted for $1.6 trillion in sales and more than 7 million jobs nationwide, but an industry under threat from problems confronting USPS. Your bill addresses critical parts of those problems effectively and appropriately.

So, on behalf of our industry, we want to thank you both for this very helpful legislation, and congratulate you on bringing it to this point. We would also like to express our appreciation to your staffs, whose hard and extensive work contributed so greatly to making this bill possible.

Sincerely,
February 1, 2022

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney
Chairwoman
Committee on Oversight and Reform
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James Comer
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and Reform
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Maloney and Ranking Member Comer,

The United Postmasters and Managers of America (UPMA) represents 22,000 active and retired postmasters, supervisors, and managers at the United States Postal Service. Like USPS, our members live and work in every state and Congressional district. We write to enthusiastically and without reservation endorse HR 3076, the Postal Service Reform Act (PSRA).

UPMA applauds you and the Committee for your bipartisan approach to postal reform during the 117th Congress. The issues facing the United States Postal Service and its employees have patiently waited for the action you are taking, and we are incredibly grateful for the efforts you’ve made to bring this legislation forward.

It is not hyperbole to say that the USPS serves an irreplaceable role in our society, one as critical today as it was at the founding of our country. UPMA members help supervise the processing and delivery of, on average, a half-billion mail pieces every day to more than 162 million households and small, medium, and large businesses throughout the United States and its territories. Those numbers continue to grow. We are grateful that Congress is stepping up to deliver for us, putting forward common-sense reforms that we believe will sustain the postal services the country relies upon.

The PRSA will put the USPS on the path to long-term success. The PRSA recognizes that our workforce is an asset and needs competitive pay and retirement benefits. The PRSA provides tools to enable delivery to the new addresses that come online every month.

This bill addresses the unfair, outdated, and fiscally untenable prefunding mandate created by the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (PAEA) of 2006, which required that the USPS pre-fund the entire sum of its future retiree health benefits. Congress imposed this requirement solely on the USPS, a burden not shared by any other Federal agency or private company. This requirement is the leading cause of the fiscal challenges faced by the USPS today. Without this requirement, the Postal Service...
would nearly break even or operate at a slight net loss, rather than experiencing the scale of losses in recent years.

The Postal Service has called for further reforms, including integrating retiree health benefits with the Medicare program. UPMA has worked with Congress to address issues around Medicare integration and believes the policy reflects well on the needs of our members.

During the past two years, our members have faced unforeseen challenges, and the USPS itself is receiving more attention than almost any time in history. The COVID-19 pandemic has transformed postal business and operations with rejuvenated package and parcel volumes and new demands for postal services, such as shipping COVID-19 test kits. Demand for postal services and the need for postal workers continue to grow.

Throughout the history of the USPS, significant changes in how Americans live, work and communicate have not reduced their expectations of their Postal Service. The Service and the employees who have worked for the Service throughout its history have always managed change. From stagecoaches to planes to automated sorting and being “the last mile delivery” for many other shipping companies, the Postal Service has adapted to serve American businesses and consumers.

Postmasters are incredibly proud of our performance throughout the pandemic, especially during the 2021 holiday mailing and package peak season. We remain committed to delivering and providing exceptional service to the American people. Postmasters serve at the front lines of addressing customer complaints about slowed mail, missing packages, and medications that don’t arrive on time. These reduce customer satisfaction and confidence in the USPS – and may drive some to take their business elsewhere, a recipe for further economic challenges. The PRSA will help the USPS make changes to improve that level of satisfaction and confidence.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our views. The United Postmasters and Managers of America strongly support the passage of HR 3076, the Postal Service Reform Act, into law.

Sincerely,

Edmund Carley
National President
United Postmasters and Managers of America

Cc: Members of the House of Representatives
Dear Madam Chairwoman and Ranking Member Comer:

I write to you today on behalf of both BlueCrest and BCC Software to express our full support of the Postal Service Reform Act, HR 3076. This legislation is essential in sustaining a viable United States Postal Service; a platform upon which thousands of mail owners and mailing service providers of ours conduct commerce, provide essential pharmaceuticals, and bind our nation.

This legislation will not only correct the prefunded healthcare requirements that were implemented as part of the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act, but it will also ensure continuation of a six-day mail delivery, enhanced transparency and accountability for USPS service performance standards, and enables the USPS to generate new revenue through specific non-postal products and services. While we strongly encourage the USPS to continue to focus on mail and parcel delivery as their primary mission, we also recognize that there are many state and local governments that would benefit from the USPS providing expanded products and services to their communities.

We look forward to a continued and successful partnership with the United States Postal Service and urge every member of the House to vote in favor of HR 3076. Thank you for your continued efforts with this important legislation that will help sustain a $1.6 trillion mailing industry.

Sincerely,

Christopher Lien
Executive Vice President of Postal Affairs
BCC Software, a BlueCrest Company

Cc: Dennis P. LeStrange
    President and CEO of BlueCrest

    Carl Amacker
    Chief Marketing Officer of BlueCrest

    Christopher O’Brien
    President of BCC Software