



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
**OVERSIGHT AND REFORM**  
CHAIRWOMAN **CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

**Republican Statements Raising Concerns About  
President Trump’s Statements and Postal Service Changes**

Contrary to claims of a Democratic “conspiracy theory,” Republicans across the country have expressed their own grave concerns about President Trump’s explicit admission that he has been blocking \$25 billion in urgent funding for the Postal Service in order to hobble mail-in voting, as well as the Postmaster General’s sweeping operational and organization changes that are causing delays across the country—including in rural and urban communities and among veterans, seniors, small businesses, and families.

**ALASKA**

**Senator Lisa Murkowski:** “It is not appropriate. I don’t think that you should use the Postal Service or any federal agency to either push or thwart a particular initiative that you may have. When you say, ‘I don’t like mail-in voting so I’m not going to be giving resources to the Postal Service to meet the need,’ then you are setting the Postal Service up for failure. I do not think it is appropriate.” [Anchorage Daily News, Aug. 15, 2020](#)

**ARKANSAS**

**Congressman French Hill:** “Today I sent a letter to @USPS voicing my concerns about its ability to deliver packages on time. USPS plays an important role within our political system and the Postmaster General must work to ensure reliable service to maintain a fair and open voting system.” [Twitter, Aug. 14, 2020](#)

**COLORADO**

**Senator Cory Gardner:** “Well, I think we have to understand what the postmaster is trying to do. Is it overtime, is that what he’s trying to do? ... The post office is operating right now at levels that are basically holiday levels because of the crush of e-commerce that they have. So, I think they need to make sure that we don’t have any kind of slowdown around elections or mail. That’s the bottom line.” [Denver Post, Aug. 17, 2020](#)

**FLORIDA**

**Congressman Vern Buchanan:** “It’s critically important that the U.S. Postal Service has the resources it needs to deliver the mail on time. Seniors, families and medical facilities depend on mail delivery for medicine and other vital services. We also need to know that absentee ballots for upcoming elections will be sent and delivered on time. Funding should not be withheld from the Postal Service.” [Twitter, Aug. 14, 2020](#)

## IDAHO

**Senator Mike Crapo:** “While it is clear that fundamental reforms are necessary to ensure the continued viability of the USPS, such efforts must not negatively affect the needs of the American people, especially during this unprecedented time.” [Idaho Press, Aug. 17, 2020](#)

## ILLINOIS

**Congressman Rodney Davis:** “There should never be politics in the post office. Let’s let them do their job, and let’s give them the funds to be able to do their job.” [WGEM News, Aug. 14, 2020](#)

**Congressman Adam Kinzinger:** “The USPS is a public service for the American people & has been since our Founding. For years, the Postal Service has faced delivery problems, but these mail delays are especially concerning for our seniors & rural communities in #IL16. The issue needs to be resolved swiftly.” [Twitter, Aug. 17, 2020](#)

## MAINE

**Senator Susan Collins:** “The Trump Administration has not been a fan of the postal service for a very long time.” [MSNBC: News Center Maine, Aug. 17, 2020](#)

**Senator Susan Collins:** “We cannot shortchange service to the public to fix USPS’ financial issues. The Postmaster General must take immediate action to remedy these delays.” [New York Times, Aug. 18, 2020](#)

**Senator Susan Collins:** “I share the goal of putting the USPS back on a financially sustainable path; however, this goal cannot be achieved by shortchanging service to the public.” [Letter to Postmaster General, Aug. 13, 2020](#)

## MICHIGAN

**Congressman Fred Upton:** “As I understand it, they have actually removed a number of postal sorting machines from Michigan that equal hundreds of thousands of letters that they’re unable to sort per hour, and there were plans to remove a number of others in west Michigan. We want to make sure that the Postal Services does have the resources. When you expect first class service, stamp or ballot or anything else, you want to make sure that it’s delivered in a timely basis and clearly that’s not been happening over the last number of months.” [WSJM, Aug. 18, 2020](#)

## MISSOURI

**Senator Josh Hawley:** “I know there need to be reforms, there need to be cost savings. That’s fine, but they cannot compromise the delivery, efficient delivery, to rural Missouri.” [WOOD TV, Aug. 5, 2020](#)

## MONTANA

**Congressman Greg Gianforte:** “Delaying mail service is unacceptable. As the country continues to combat COVID-19, on-time mail delivery keeps our communities connected. Montanans depend on reliable access to mail to receive prescription drugs, online purchases, and financial documents. Any delays in receiving mail would disproportionately impact rural Americans. Do not continue down this road.”

[Letter to Postmaster General, August 6, 2020](#)

**Congressman Greg Gianforte:** “I am concerned at the potential negative impact these cuts will have on mail delivery. ... During the current public health crisis, it is more important than ever the USPS continue to provide prompt, dependable delivery service.” [Letter to Postmaster General, Aug. 14, 2020](#)

**Senator Steve Daines:** “Recently, I have received concerning reports that collection boxes have been removed in many Montana communities, including in Billings, Bozeman, Missoula, and Livingston and the potential that the removals of collection boxes could result in delayed mail delivery and reduced mail options for Montanans.” [Letter to Postmaster General, Aug. 14, 2020](#)

## NEW JERSEY

**Congressman Chris Smith:** “By way of background, I have been contacted by constituents who reside and/or work in Belmar, Eatontown, Fair Haven, Lake Como, Lakewood, Little Silver, Neptune, Ocean Township, Red Bank, Tinton Falls and Wall, New Jersey. All have expressed dismay and grave concern as they detail mail delivery problems ranging from receiving no mail for as long as four days; receiving mail sporadically; or receiving only packages. I have also received telephone calls from several letter carriers advising me that because of new instructions from their supervisors and ‘headquarters,’ they have been unable to complete their mail delivery routes and instead must prioritize parcels over regular first-class mail. This, they say, results in the carriers having to stop delivery of mail for extended periods of time.” [Letter to Postmaster General, July 24, 2020](#)

**Congressman Chris Smith:** “A critical aspect of securing our elections is ensuring our Nation has a robust and healthy United States Postal Service. ... In the current time of COVID-19 stay-at-home orders, our economy and elections are even more reliant upon a strongly supported USPS. Having voted for HR 2—legislation that recently passed the House to provide \$25 billion in additional funding for the USPS—I believe we must provide the backing and equipment needed so postal workers can safely and effectively do their jobs which includes processing voters’ ballots.” [News Item, Aug. 17, 2020](#)

## NORTH DAKOTA

**Congressman Kelly Armstrong:** “I know that there are some of my colleagues who believe in privatization. I do not. ... The reason I don’t is because the last mile of delivery is obviously the most expensive and obviously really important in North Dakota.” [Inforum, Aug. 14, 2020](#)

## OHIO

**Secretary of State Frank LaRose:** “It is irresponsible—whether it’s a Republican or Democrat—for people to create a sense, incorrectly, in the minds of voters that they can’t trust their elections.” [CNN, July 16, 2020](#)

**Ohio Attorney General Dave Yost:** “Whatever reform is needed at the Postal Service, it cannot come at the expense of our faith in the 2020 election. ... Anything less than full confidence in the timely receipt of all timely mailed absentee ballots will rob the winners of an honest victory and the losers of the peace that comes from a fair defeat. Our country cannot take any more of that.” [Letter to President Trump, Aug. 16, 2020](#)

**Senator Rob Portman:** “Today, we write to you to request the USPS implement procedures, in coordination with the State of Ohio, to ensure the timely and accurate delivery of election-related materials prior to the November elections.” [Letter to Postmaster General, Aug. 17, 2020](#)

## OREGON

**State Rep. Raquel Moore-Green:** “We must ensure that we are not disenfranchising thousands of voters who mail in ballots during the week prior to Election Day. Even as we celebrate Oregon’s 20-year-old vote-by-mail system, we must not become complacent. We must stay mindful of ongoing threats to our voting system and continue to work on improvements in the verification portion of the system so that those eligible and registered to vote in Oregon are able to do so in a safe and protected manner.” [Willamette Week, Aug. 5, 2020](#)

## PENNSYLVANIA

**Congressman Brian Fitzpatrick:** “Last week, I joined my bipartisan colleagues in a letter to the Postmaster General requiring a response regarding reports of delays in mail delivery. We must preserve and enhance @USPS delivery standards and services, and not allow any operational changes that could delay deliveries.” [Twitter, Aug. 10, 2020](#)

## TENNESSEE

**Congressman Tim Burchett:** “However, the changes you have implemented—and continue to implement—very clearly are not making the United States Postal Service more efficient, and I urge you to change course.” [Letter to Postmaster General, Aug. 17, 2020](#)

**Congressman Tim Burchett:** “Rather than improving operations, the Postmaster General’s changes are disrupting critical mail service for small business owners, seniors, veterans and everyday consumers in my district and across the country.” [Press Release, Aug. 17, 2020](#)

## UTAH

**Senator Mitt Romney:** “When politicians attack a judicial system, attack a voting system ... attack a free press, these things threaten the foundation upon which not only our own democracy rests but democracies around the world rest.” [Axios, Aug. 15, 2020](#)

## VERMONT

**Governor Phil Scott:** “I think this is unfortunate, when you try to squelch the voices of Americans and squelch their opportunity to vote. ... I think during these times, we should be doing all we can to make sure everyone is counted and has their voices heard through the ballot box. ... Especially during these times when we’re asking people to stay home more and not interact, utilizing mail services [such as the Postal Service and private carriers] has been helpful. ... This is the wrong time to be pulling back.” [Bennington Banner, Aug. 14, 2020](#)

## VIRGINIA

**Congressman Rob Wittman:** “Recently, I have heard from a significant number of constituents across the First Congressional District reporting delayed mail services-- impacting critical shipments of medications, harming businesses and casting doubt on the USPS preparedness to handle the expected increased number of absentee votes by mail during the upcoming general election. ... I would encourage you to continue to work with Postmaster General DeJoy to ensure reliable and sustainable mail service, vital to so many Virginians.” [Letter to Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, Aug. 17, 2020](#)

## WASHINGTON

**Secretary of State Kim Wyman:** “[E]lection officials are very concerned, if the post office is reducing service, that we will be able to get ballots to people in time.” [\*New York Times, July 31, 2020\*](#)

**Congresswoman Jaime Herrera Beutler:** “I urge you to immediately resolve the impacts to services that appear to be resulting from changes in operations at the United States Postal Service (USPS). I have heard from constituents and small businesses who are being significantly impacted by delays in mail delivery. Businesses are struggling to stay afloat and residents are relying more heavily than ever on the U.S. mail to deliver prescriptions, health care information, bills and other vital products and documents, making it imperative that the USPS provide timely, reliable service.” [\*Letter to Postmaster General, Aug. 17, 2020\*](#)

## WEST VIRGINIA

**Senator Shelley Moore Capito:** “Post offices are an integral part of our small communities in West Virginia, especially those who live in rural parts of our state. I understand the importance of protecting rural post offices from being unfairly targeted as a cost saving measure.” [\*Twitter, Aug. 17, 2020\*](#)