Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

June 10, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Majority Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Chuck Schumer Democratic Leader United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leader McConnell and Leader Schumer,

Thank you for working with the House of Representative to address the novel coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis. While our work on the Families First Coronavirus Response Act and the CARES Act is providing relief to many working families and businesses, those legislative packages did not adequately address the financial hardship this crisis has caused for the United States Postal Service (USPS).

As COVID-19 relief discussions continue with the House of Representatives and the White House, we urge you to provide \$25 billion in emergency grants to the USPS to offset COVID-19 revenue losses and allow improved access to borrowing authority from the Department of the Treasury. Support for the USPS is urgent and bipartisan. This request is consistent with the funding needs expressed by the bipartisan USPS Board of Governors.

According to the Postmaster General, the USPS is now expecting \$22 billion in revenue losses over the next 18 months and could be forced to cease operations. This result would be devastating to all Americans who depend on the USPS to deliver everything from lifesaving medications, to stimulus checks, to the essential goods and services on which our small businesses rely. The Constitution empowers the federal government to provide a working postal system, and as Members of Congress, we take that responsibility seriously.

The USPS represents what is best about America. It is one of the largest employers of veterans, boasts a diverse workforce, and handles 48 percent of the world's mail.² If Congress is unable to preserve this critical institution, it will severely impact our way of life, including putting the health and safety of older Americans at risk and disenfranchising millions of voters who are unable to vote in person.

We look forward to working with you in a bipartisan manner to deliver relief to the USPS as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

MIKE LEVIN

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Member of Congress

BRIAN FITZPATRICK

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 $^{{}^{1}\}underline{\text{https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/factcheck/2020/04/10/fact-check-coronavirus-wont-force-us-postal-service-shut-down/5126557002/}$

² https://facts.usps.com/top-facts/

/s//s/PETER KING JAHANA HAYES Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/JOSH HARDER **ED CASE** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/ANDRÉ CARSON **DEBBIE DINGELL** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s/**DEB HAALAND** CEDRIC L. RICHMOND Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/TJ COX TIM RYAN Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/**DENNY HECK** EARL BLUMENAUER Member of Congress Member of Congress /s/JARED HUFFMAN JIMMY PANETTA Member of Congress Member of Congress /s/ /s/**RON KIND** DONALD M. PAYNE JR. Member of Congress Member of Congress /s/**GWEN MOORE** VICENTE GONZALEZ Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/JOE NEGUSE **RASHIDA TLAIB** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/

EMANUEL CLEAVER, II

Member of Congress

ADAM SMITH

/s//s/LIZZIE FLETCHER **CHRISSY HOULAHAN** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/ANNE KIRKPATRICK JOE COURTNEY Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/**CHERI BUSTOS** MARY GAY SCANLON Member of Congress Member of Congress ALAN LOWENTHAL RAÚL M. GRIJALVA Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/JOHN KATKO PRAMILA JAYAPAL Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/DAVID N. CICILLINE **BETTY MCCOLLUM** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/SEAN PATRICK MALONEY TED W. LIEU Member of Congress Member of Congress /s/ /s/YVETTE D. CLARKE NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/PETER A. DEFAZIO **BRIAN HIGGINS** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/DEREK KILMER ABBY FINKENAUER Member of Congress Member of Congress

/s/

JUAN VARGAS

Member of Congress

/s/

KATHY CASTOR

/s//s/LORI TRAHAN JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/JOSH GOTTHEIMER SUSAN WILD Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/**ANDY LEVIN DAVID TRONE** Member of Congress Member of Congress ABIGAIL D. SPANBERGER SUSAN A. DAVIS Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/STEVEN HORSFORD **SCOTT PETERS** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/JIM MCGOVERN KATIE PORTER Member of Congress Member of Congress /s/**CHRIS PAPPAS SUZAN DELBENE** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s/ /s/**BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN** JAN SCHAKOWSKY Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/MIKIE SHERRILL JACKIE SPEIER Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/NORMA J. TORRES **ALBIO SIRES** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/

J.LUIS CORREA

Member of Congress

ANTHONY BRINDISI

/s//s/**ZOE LOFGREN ED PERLMUTTER** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/JERRY CONNOLLY HARLEY ROUDA Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/BRENDA L. LAWRENCE MARK POCAN Member of Congress Member of Congress /s/JERRY MCNERNEY BRENDAN F. BOYLE Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/ROBERT. C. "BOBBY" SCOTT JOHN P. SARBANES Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHI **CONOR LAMB** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/JUDY CHU ALMA S. ADAMS, PH.D. Member of Congress Member of Congress /s/ /s/MIKE THOMPSON **DORIS MATSUI** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s/MIKE DOYLE LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/SYLVIA R. GARCIA DANIEL T. KILDEE Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/

ROSA DELAURO

Member of Congress

JOHN GARAMENDI

/s//s/BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER **ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/**ANGIE CRAIG** MARCIA L. FUDGE Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/**GREGORY MEEKS** DANNY K. DAVIS Member of Congress Member of Congress /s/ MARK TAKANO **BILL KEATING** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/LAUREN UNDERWOOD JIM COSTA Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/PETER WELCH JARED GOLDEN Member of Congress Member of Congress /s/SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR **DARREN SOTO** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ **BILL FOSTER** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/TERRI A. SEWELL **XOCHITL TORRES SMALL** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/NANETTE DIAZ BARRAGÁN JOAQUIN CASTRO Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/

ADRIANO ESPAILLAT

Member of Congress

JOSEPH D. MORELLE

/s//s/**HAKEEM JEFFRIES** GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/**RO KHANNA** JOHN YARMUTH Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/**BARBARA LEE** LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/ ELIOT L. ENGEL JAMIE RASKIN Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/**EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON** TOM O'HALLERAN Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/THOMAS R. SUOZZI **DIANA DEGETTE** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s/ALCEE L. HASTINGS VERONICA ESCOBAR Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/STEPHEN F. LYNCH BILL PASCRELL, JR. Member of Congress Member of Congress /s/JULIA BROWNLEY **MAXINE WATERS** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/**DWIGHT EVANS COLID ALLRED** Member of Congress Member of Congress /s//s/

ANTHONY G. BROWN

Member of Congress

A. DONALD MCEACHIN