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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS WASHINGTON. DC 20510–6250

August 16, 2020

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Johnson:

I write to request a hearing on unacceptable changes taking place at the U.S. Postal Service that are slowing mail delivery and jeopardizing this crucial public service for veterans, small businesses, rural communities, seniors, and millions of Americans who rely on the mail. I request that you use your authority as Chairman to call Postmaster General Louis DeJoy to testify before our Committee on August 21, or as soon as practicable. I also request that you call Robert Duncan, Chairman of the Postal Service Board of Governors. As the only Senate Committee with jurisdiction over the Postal Service, this Committee has a responsibility to examine Mr. DeJoy's recent directives and their impacts on all Americans, who rely on the Postal Service for prescriptions, essential goods, voting, and other crucial purposes.

Postmaster General DeJoy has refused to satisfactorily answer questions on the minds of Americans as they see severely increased mail delays under Mr. DeJoy's leadership. Mr. DeJoy has made significant changes to Postal Service operations since he began his tenure as Postmaster General, including a restructuring of the Postal Service's operations, the reduction of overtime, the reduction of equipment at mail processing plants, the elimination of extra mail transportation trips, and the start of a pilot program for mail sorting and delivery policies at hundreds of post offices. In addition, Congress has received daily reports of other changes at the Postal Service which Mr. DeJoy has not publicly discussed, including the reduction of hours at post offices, possible post office closures, removing mail collection boxes, shortages of stamps and other materials, and more.

It is imperative that Mr. DeJoy publicly and comprehensively testify about changes and planned changes taking place at the U.S. Postal Service, since the Postal Service is a public institution that both serves and belongs to every person in our nation. I look forward to your reply to this request.

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Sincerely,

Gary C. Peters

Ranking Member

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs