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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

November 22, 2017

The Honorable Megan J. Brennan
Postmaster General
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza
Washington, DC 20260

Dear Ms. Brennan:

I write to request that the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) take immediate action to correct the addresses of Missouri residents who currently have Iowa mailing addresses despite living within Missouri state lines. The Clark County Commissioners and residents of Clark County have formally requested this address change with the USPS, and it has come to my attention that residents of Atchison, Mercer, Putnam, Schuyler, and Scotland Counties are also affected. I urge you to work proactively with all of these counties to correct this issue as soon as possible.

According to Buddy Kattelman, Clark County's Presiding Commissioner, this problem has existed for at least 30 years, and he claims that no one has provided the community with a definitive answer to explain why Missouri residents in Clark County have Iowa addresses. All of Clark County's Commissioners believe that now would be an optimal time for the USPS to correct these addresses because Clark County is also currently in the process of transitioning its 911 address system.

This address issue causes residents, businesses, and local governments of these six counties a wide variety of unnecessary burdens. Residents state that it can take several months to obtain death certificates, and local police officers believe that their Missouri drivers' licenses are fraudulent because they have Iowa addresses. A Clark County clerk expressed concern that the incorrect addresses have negatively impacted the integrity of Missouri's voting system because Iowa addresses are not compatible with the State-wide voter information system. As a result, Missouri residents afflicted by this problem are unable to properly register to vote, have a difficult time determining their voting precinct and district, and may have to use provisional ballots to cast their votes. The Superintendent of Clark County Schools expressed similar concerns with the Iowa addresses explaining that they are incompatible with Missouri's student information system.

A small, local tax and accounting firm in the area has indicated that the incorrect addresses have caused their clients considerable confusion and frustration on their Missouri State Income tax returns, their Missouri Property Tax Credit Returns, and with the State of Iowa, which believes these Missouri residents should be filing Iowa Tax Returns because of their addresses.

Simply put, Missouri residents deserve Missouri addresses. I urge you to resolve this issue as soon as possible, and request responses to the following questions by December 13, 2017:

1. A history of the issue, including the years in which the Iowa addresses were assigned to Missouri residents;
2. A dedicated contact person who will be responsible for working with these communities to resolve this issue; and,
3. An estimated date by which these changes can be finalized.

I appreciate your prompt attention to this matter. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Charlie Moskowitz of my staff at Charlie_Moskowitz@hsgac.senate.gov. Please send any official correspondence to Lucy_Balczak@hsgac.senate.gov

Sincerely,



Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member

cc: Ron Johnson
Chairman