

Chairman Peters Opening Statement As Prepared for Delivery
Full Committee Hearing: Nominations of Hon. Derek T. Kan and Hon. Daniel M.
Tangherlini to be Governors, U.S. Postal Service
March 31, 2022

Today, we are considering the nominations of Daniel Tangherlini and Derek Kan to be Governors of the United States Postal Service.

Welcome to each of you and thank you for joining us today. Congratulations on your nominations, and thank you all for your willingness to take on these important roles.

Since the founding of the United States, the Postal Service has been a vital part of the fabric of our nation. For generations, it has served as an essential public service that delivers critical mail like medications and financial documents, and helps families stay connected with their loved ones, and more.

As the only carrier that delivers to every community in the country, serving more than 160 million households and businesses, this vital public service operates as a critical lifeline for seniors, veterans, small businesses, rural and underserved populations, and other communities.

However, for more than 15 years, the Postal Service has been burdened by unfair financial requirements that undermined the institution, and harmed service for the millions of Americans it serves.

I am pleased we were able to deliver significant, historic reforms by passing the bipartisan *Postal Service Reform Act*, which Ranking Member Portman and I authored. This long-overdue legislation will provide stability, protect key services, and set the Postal Service on a sustainable financial footing.

The United States Postal Service Board of Governors plays an essential role in the Postal Service's future. As the governing body for the Postal Service, they oversee its operational strategy to ensure the Postal Service continues on a good path, both financially, and by providing reliable service to its customers.

To be successful, the Board must have qualified leaders who can govern, conduct oversight of Postal Service management, and work with lawmakers to ensure our postal workforce has the right support to deliver for the American people each and every day.

However, it is equally important to have governors who understand that the Postal Service is ultimately a public service, and will work tirelessly to make sure it is acting in the best interest of the public.

If confirmed to the Board, each of you will play a critical role in these efforts.

Mr. Tangherlini, you have significant leadership experience as a top official at the General Services Administration, in D.C. government, and more.

Your specialized knowledge in finance and technology from serving in senior roles in the public, non-profit, and private sectors demonstrates you are well-equipped to facilitate and provide counsel on the financial and managerial aspects of the Postal Service.

Mr. Kan, your experience at the Office of Management and Budget, the Department of Transportation, Amtrak, and as an executive in the private sector, will bring operational and logistical knowledge to the Board. I've appreciated the opportunity to work with you in some of your previous roles – and look forward to hearing more about your vision for the Postal Service today.

Given the Postal Service's critical mission, it is also essential that each of you, in your respective roles, maintain the Board's tradition of working in a bipartisan manner.

So I am pleased we have a bipartisan pair of nominees here today to maintain a full complement of Governors on the Board, and I look forward to hearing more from each of you about your vision for continuing the Postal Service's critical mission.