



June 28, 2017

House Appropriations Committee
Chairman Rodney P. Frelinghuysen
H-305, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General
Government
Chairman Tom Graves
2078 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

House Appropriations Committee
Ranking Member Nita M. Lowey
2365 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General
Government
Ranking Member Mike Quigley
2458 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

On behalf of over 330,000 city and rural letter carriers who work across America every day, we write to urge your subcommittee to preserve the language regarding six-day mail delivery and small post offices that has been continuously included in the annual Financial Services and General Government Appropriation bill for more than 30 years.

This proposed language enjoys overwhelming bipartisan support in the House of Representatives. Indeed, House Resolution 15 drafted by Reps. Sam Graves (R-MO) and Gerry Connolly (D-VA), which calls for the continuation of six-day delivery, has attracted more than 226 co-sponsors already. As in the 113th and 114th Congress, a clear majority of House members cosponsored this resolution.

The Postal Service, which requires no taxpayer appropriations, remains a vital component of this country's economic and communications infrastructure. In 2016, the Service delivered more than 150 billion pieces of mail and became an even bigger player in the booming e-commerce sector, now offering 7-day delivery. Almost one half of all bills are still paid by mail. The majority of bills and statements received by households are still delivered by mail. Trillions of dollars move through the postal system every year. The Postal Service's \$72 billion in revenue is only a small part of the \$1.4 trillion of GDP accounted for by the U.S. mailing industry, which now employs 7.5 million Americans, mostly in the private sector. The health of this huge industry depends on a healthy Postal Service.

We urge you to include the well-established provisions – one calling for the continuation of six-day city and rural mail delivery and another prohibiting the use of appropriated funds to close or consolidate small post offices – in the FY 2018 FSGG appropriations bill. These provisions are essential to the continuation of high-quality, affordable universal postal services that the businesses and citizens you represent rely on every day. We urge you to oppose any attempt to remove these provisions.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Dwyer
President
National Rural Letter Carriers Association

Fredric V. Rolando
President
National Association of Letter Carriers