

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 30, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol H-232
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
U.S. Capitol S-230
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. Capitol H-204
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
U.S. Capitol S-221
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader McCarthy, Majority Leader McConnell, and Minority Leader Schumer:

The coronavirus crisis is wreaking havoc on the U.S. Postal Service. Without immediate help from Congress and the Administration, the Postal Service—a vital staple of American society since 1775—could cease to function by this summer.

First class and business mail volume are dropping at an alarming rate as a direct result of the coronavirus crisis. Mail volume is down by more than 30% from the same period last year. The Postal Service estimates revenue losses of \$13 billion by the end of this fiscal year and \$10 billion in the next fiscal year as a direct result of the crisis. Over the next ten years, the Postal Service estimates that losses caused by the coronavirus would be \$54 billion.¹

This is a national emergency. The negative effects of this crisis will be borne hardest by those in rural areas—where millions of Americans are currently sheltering in place and relying on the Postal Service to deliver essential supplies.

The American people rely on the Postal Service to deliver crucial goods and services every day, including more than a billion life-saving medications last year alone, millions of economic stimulus checks and unemployment benefits to help during this crisis, and 2020 Census forms for every household in America.

The Postal Service is a fundamental component of America's economic infrastructure, providing affordable, universal delivery of mail and e-commerce packages to more than 160 million households and business. The Postal Service propels a \$1.6 trillion mailing industry that employs 7.3 million people. It does all of this while operating as a business and receiving next to nothing in taxpayer dollars.²

¹ Briefing by Megan J. Brennan, Postmaster General and Chief Executive Officer, U.S. Postal Service, to Committee on Oversight and Reform (Apr. 9, 2020).

² U.S. Postal Service, *Sizing It Up* (online at <https://facts.usps.com/size-and-scope>).

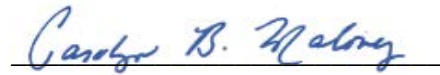
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Both Democrats and Republicans in Congress supported large infusions of liquidity for other industries and companies that are critical to our nation's economy. For example, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act provided \$50 billion in grants and loans, including payroll support, to passenger air carriers.³ According to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics, the U.S. airline industry had 452,668 full time employees in 2019, meaning that the Act provided the airline industry with the equivalent of more than \$110,000 per employee.⁴ That would amount to more than \$69 billion if applied to the Postal Service's 630,000 employees.

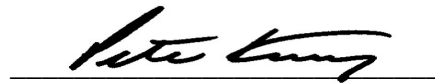
The bipartisan Postal Service Board of Governors unanimously asked Congress to approve \$25 billion in emergency appropriations to offset coronavirus-related losses, \$25 billion for "shovel-ready" projects to modernize the Postal Service, and access to \$25 billion in unrestricted borrowing authority from Treasury.⁵ We strongly support emergency funding for the Postal Service and urge you to do the same.

The Postal Service is an indispensable component of America's critical infrastructure, and its workers are on the frontlines every single day delivering information and packages to the American people. We must save it now. We urge you to work in the coming days to pass legislation that will give the Postal Service the assistance it needs to keep functioning on behalf of the American people.

Sincerely,



Carolyn B. Maloney
Co-Founder
Postal Preservation Caucus



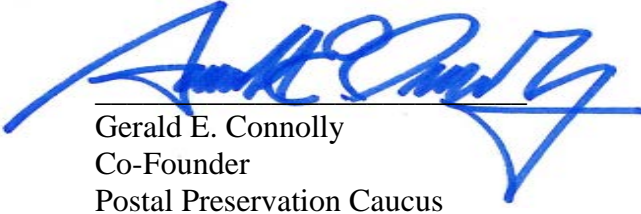
Peter T. King
Co-Founder
Postal Preservation Caucus

³ Department of the Treasury, *Guidelines and Application Procedures for Payroll Support to Air Carriers and Contractors under Division A, Title IV, Subtitle B of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act* (Mar. 30, 2020) (online at <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/Guidelines%20and%20Procedures%20for%20Payroll%20Support%20to%20Air%20Carriers%20and%20Contractors.pdf>); Department of the Treasury, *Procedures and Minimum Requirements for Loans to Air Carriers and Eligible Businesses and National Security Businesses under Division A, Title IV, Subtitle A of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act* (Mar. 30, 2020) (online at <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/Procedures%20and%20Minimum%20Requirements%20for%20Loans.pdf>).

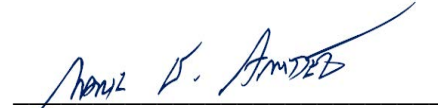
⁴ Department of Transportation, *November 2019 U.S. Passenger Airline Employment Data* (Jan. 21, 2020) (online at www.bts.dot.gov/newsroom/november-2019-us-passenger-airline-employment-data).

⁵ Briefing by Megan J. Brennan, Postmaster General and Chief Executive Officer, U.S. Postal Service, to Committee on Oversight and Reform (Apr. 9, 2020).

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