September 3, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump, President  
United States of America  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Mr. President:

We write to you today, as elected Democratic, Republican, and No Party Preference members of California’s State Legislature to strongly encourage you to restore the United States Postal Service (USPS) to its pre-2020 stature and mission.

The USPS traces its roots to the Second Continental Congress nearly 250 years ago, with Benjamin Franklin as its first Postmaster General. With the advent of the telephone, the computer, and smart phones, the amount of letter mail processed daily by the USPS has greatly declined over the years. Suffice it to say, the Post Office and its functions have changed dramatically since 1775 and days of the Pony Express.

Nevertheless, our men and women in blue have trudged forward – “neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night” have prevented our neighborhood mail carriers from being a daily fixture in our communities. Where they no longer primarily deliver written person-to-person correspondence, for many, our mailmen and women are the primary connection between households and the outside world. This has been even more true during our current COVID-19 pandemic. Given that the USPS is the leading delivery service for online purchases, its reliability is especially important at a time when American families increasingly are turning to online shopping for their household necessities. Moreover, roughly a quarter of American households continue to pay their monthly bills by mail.

In recent decades, the USPS has also become the most common at-home delivery service for necessary and life-saving medications for millions of Americans.
Some estimates report that the Postal Service was responsible for linking people with over 100 million medications in 2019 alone. For those who are disabled or who have limited means of transportation, weekly or monthly visits to a pharmacy can be cumbersome or nearly impossible. The advent of prescription via mail has ensured that people have easy, timely, and uninterrupted access to their life-saving medications.

The Postal Service also continues to be the primary mechanism by which America’s military families stay in touch. With our country’s troops spread across the globe (many in untenable and difficult conditions), care packages from families and friends delivered via USPS are the one aspect of normalcy afforded to our engaged servicemembers. Letters and pictures from home, books and magazines, and favorite American foods and snacks can often make a world of difference in a soldier’s morale on difficult days and stretches.

The USPS is an apolitical agency supporting nearly every aspect of life at home and abroad. It is an American institution that has adapted to telecommunication changes and our national needs and has served this country honorably for centuries. The men and women who make up the Postal Service are fixtures in our neighborhoods, providing consistency and calm in moments of crisis or hardship like our current pandemic, wildfires, and hurricanes.

Together, and with all politics aside, we implore you, Mr. President, to use the powers of your office to promote the good work of the United States Postal Service. It is imperative that you restore reductions made to the agency thus far in 2020, the morale of our courageous and dedicated postal workers, and America’s confidence in its service and capabilities.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Thomas J. Umberg, Chair
Senate Committee on Elections
& Constitutional Amendments
Senator, 34th District

The Honorable Marc Berman, Chair
Assembly Committee on Elections
& Redistricting
Assemblymember, 24th District

The Honorable Bob Archuleta
Senator, 32nd District

The Honorable Jim Beall
Senator, 15th District
The Honorable Anna Caballero  
Senator, 12th District

The Honorable Bill Dodd  
Senator, 3rd District

The Honorable Maria Elena Durazo  
Senator, 24th District

The Honorable Jerry Hill  
Senator, 13th District

The Honorable Melissa Hurtado  
Senator, 14th District

The Honorable Hannah-Beth Jackson  
Senator, 19th District

The Honorable Mike McGuire  
Senator, 2nd District

The Honorable Anthony Portantino  
Senator, 25th District

The Honorable Susan Rubio  
Senator, 22nd District

The Honorable Nancy Skinner  
Senator, 9th District

The Honorable Robert A. Wieckowski  
Senator, 10th District

The Honorable Scott Wiener  
Senator, 11th District
The Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry
Assemblymember, 4th District

The Honorable Rebecca Bauer-Kahan
Assemblymember, 16th District

The Honorable Richard Bloom
Assemblymember, 50th District

The Honorable Rob Bonta
Assemblymember, 18th District

The Honorable Wendy Carrillo
Assemblymember, 51st District

The Honorable Sabrina Cervantes
Assemblymember, 60th District

The Honorable Ed Chau
Assemblymember, 49th District

The Honorable David Chiu
Assemblymember, 17th District

The Honorable Kansen Chu
Assemblymember, 25th District

The Honorable Jim Cooper
Assemblymember, 9th District

The Honorable Tom Daly
Assemblymember, 69th District

The Honorable Laura Friedman
Assemblymember, 43rd District
The Honorable Jim Frazier
Assemblymember, 11th District

The Honorable Jesse Gabriel
Assemblymember, 45th District

The Honorable Cristina Garcia
Assemblymember, 58th District

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez
Assemblymember, 80th District

The Honorable Todd Gloria
Assemblymember, 78th District

The Honorable Jacqui Irwin
Assemblymember, 44th District

The Honorable Ash Kalra
Assemblymember, 27th District

The Honorable Sydney Kamlager
Assemblymember, 54th District

The Honorable Marc Levine
Assemblymember, 10th District

The Honorable Monique Limón
Assemblymember, 37th District

The Honorable Brian Maienschein
Assemblymember, 77th District

The Honorable Kevin McCarty
Assemblymember, 7th District
The Honorable Jose Medina
Assemblymember, 61st District

The Honorable Kevin Mullin
Assemblymember, 22nd District

The Honorable Adrin Nazarian
Assemblymember, 46th District

The Honorable Patrick O’Donnell
Assemblymember, 70th District

The Honorable Cottie Petrie-Norris
Assemblymember, 74th District

The Honorable Bill Quirk
Assemblymember, 20th District

The Honorable Sharon Quirk-Silva
Assemblymember, 65th District

The Honorable Robert Rivas
Assemblymember, 30th District

The Honorable Freddie Rodriguez
Assemblymember, 52nd District

The Honorable Blanca Rubio
Assemblymember, 48th District

The Honorable Miguel Santiago
Assemblymember, 53rd District

The Honorable Christy Smith
Assemblymember, 38th District
The Honorable Mark Stone
Assemblymember, 29th District

The Honorable Philip Ting
Assemblymember, 19th District

The Honorable Marie Waldron
Assemblymember, 75th District

The Honorable Jim Wood
Assemblymember, 2nd District