

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2107

February 19, 2021

President Joe Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

President Biden,

I write to urge you to take critical and necessary action to restore the integrity of the United States Postal Service (USPS) and prevent further damage to its workforce and our communities. Under the failed leadership of Postmaster General Louis DeJoy and the negligence and complicity of the current members of the Board of Governors, the postal workforce has suffered, delivery and critical services have been cut and our communities have experienced unparalleled hurt. These actions and clear dereliction of duty and service to the American people require accountability. Therefore, it is absolutely critical that you immediately remove Postmaster General Louis DeJoy, and every member of the current Board of Governors and appoint a diverse Board of Governors with the experience and skills needed to represent the public interest.

Since taking the helm of the USPS in June, Postmaster General Louis DeJoy has sabotaged the agency when we needed it most. Postmaster DeJoy implemented operational changes which included drastically reducing overtime pay and removing community mail drop boxes and mail sorting resources available to employees. As you know, these misguided changes resulted in drastic delays during a federal election and in the midst of the ongoing global pandemic. DeJoy continues to compromise the people's ability to receive everything from paychecks to life-saving medication, with new delay tactics and higher postage rates. It is in our country's best interest to replace the Postmaster General, and he is not acting alone.

The current Board of Governors has been complicit in the systematic deterioration of the USPS, a blatant dereliction of duty that requires swift removal and replacement. Their selection of DeJoy and approval of his decisions demonstrate they are unfit for their current roles atop the agency. The Board continues to support the Postmaster General's efforts to diminish the capacity of our postal system, jeopardizing the progress your Administration is making to end the pandemic and economic crisis. When I questioned Board Chairman Robert Duncan at a Committee on Oversight and Reform hearing, it was abundantly clear he and his fellow Governors are unwilling and uninterested in faithfully and dutifully serving the American public. Hence, you must take action.

As President, you have full authority to replace the Board of Governors and appoint a new slate of leaders. I encourage you to ensure your appointees are reflective of the 600,000 dedicated workers

they will lead. We need a Board of Governors that includes women, people of color, and individuals who have direct experience working for the USPS and serving our communities. Furthermore, the Governors should have diverse areas of expertise, including experience with vote-by-mail logistics and workers' rights advocacy. The people who call America home, including the essential workers of the USPS, should not be forced to continue to suffer under Postmaster General DeJoy and an irresponsible and negligent Board of Governors.

You have the power to end this era of abysmal leadership at the United States Postal Service. As we work to build back better, it is critical that you replace the Board of Governors with leaders committed to representing the public interest and ensure that we are doing the work to restore public trust and integrity in the USPS as the essential institution that it is. Thank you for your consideration and attention to this critically urgent issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ayanna S. Pressley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "A".

Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress