



June 20, 2007

The Honorable David R. Obey
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jerry Lewis
Ranking Minority Member
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jose E. Serrano
Chairman
Subcommittee on Financial Services
and General Government
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ralph Regula
Ranking Minority Member
Subcommittee on Financial Services
and General Government
Committee on Appropriations
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Elimination of the Postal Service's Revenue Forgone Funds

Dear Gentlemen:

We write concerning the elimination of the \$29 million in Revenue Forgone monies by the House Appropriations Committee in its markup of the 2008 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill, and urge you to reinstate it.

The seven signatories to this letter are the Presidents of postmasters, postal supervisors, and organized labor groups. Collectively, we represent the interests of the more than 800,000 employees of the United States Postal Service.

These monies are payment on a long-term debt that the Federal Government owes the Postal Service for keeping rates low for the country's charities, small rural newspapers, and the blind in the 1980s and 1990s. Neither the Postal Service nor its employees ever directly benefited from this program, only the nation's charities and rural newspapers, and of course, the country as a whole.

This is a debt that the federal government has been paying for the last 14 years. It is a debt on which the Federal Government has 28 more payments. It is a debt that the Federal Government should continue to pay, until it is paid off. It is difficult to see how

Page Two
June 20, 2007

the Congress can expect the Postal Service to act responsibly, efficiently, and in the public interest unless Congress is willing to do the same.

We urge you to reinstate the \$29 million for the postal revenue forgone appropriation.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

William Burrus
President
American Postal Workers Union

William H. Young
President
National Association of Letter Carriers

Ted Keating
President
National Association of Postal Supervisors

Dale Goff
President
National Association of Postmasters of the United States

Charles Mapa
President
National League of Postmasters

John F. Hegarty
President
National Postal Mail Handlers Union

Donnie Pitts
President
National Rural Letter Carriers' Association