



January 24, 2006

The Honorable Susan M. Collins  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510-6250

Dear Senator Collins:

Since we appreciate very much the efforts of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee in crafting postal reform legislation, it is with regret that we must oppose the bill, even with the manager's amendments.

As we have communicated through a series of letters last year, buttressing communications from previous Boards about earlier versions of the legislation, we believe there are critical elements missing from this bill, as well as numerous burdensome provisions that would make it extremely difficult for the Postal Service to function in a modern, competitive environment.

We note, in particular, serious discrepancies between the bill's provisions and recommendations of the President's Commission, and while the bills do return responsibility for military retirement expense to the U.S. Treasury, this violates the Statement of Administration Policy and invites a Presidential veto. We also note that issues raised in the Statement of Administration Policy are not dealt with at all in these bills.

Again, it is with regret that, in carrying out our fiduciary responsibilities and in keeping with our concerns that the Postal Service be able to provide the quality of service and reasonable rates to which the American people have become accustomed, we must oppose the passage of this bill.


Sincerely yours,



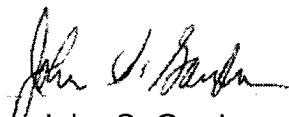
James C. Miller III  
Chairman



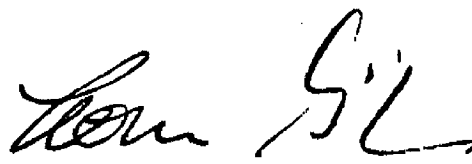
Alan C. Kessler  
Vice Chairman



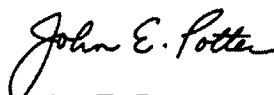
Carolyn Lewis Gallagher  
Governor



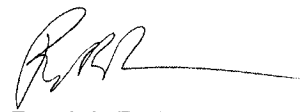
John S. Gardner  
Governor



Louis J. Giuliano  
Governor



John E. Potter  
Postmaster General  
and Chief Executive Officer



Patrick R. Donahoe  
Deputy Postmaster General  
and Chief Operating Officer