



August 21, 2020

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

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney
Chairwoman, House Oversight Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

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

The Honorable James Comer
Ranking Member, House Oversight
Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Chairwoman Maloney, and Ranking Member Comer:

The Human Rights Campaign and Lambda Legal are the nation's largest lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) civil rights organizations working to achieve the full recognition of the civil rights of LGBTQ people and everyone living with HIV. We write to urge you to ensure passage of the bipartisan Delivering for America Act (H.R. 8015).

The United States Postal Service (USPS) has played a fundamental role in establishing and preserving our unity as a country. With Benjamin Franklin at the helm as the first Postmaster General, the creation of the USPS in 1775 was critical to the transformation of our nation into a true union. Ever since, the USPS has helped drive our economy, and has kept communities connected and safe. Even as our nation grew to ten times its original size, Americans from Maui to Maine continue to enjoy the benefits of this national treasure. It provides an invaluable service that enjoys overwhelming bipartisan adoration (91% approval by both Republicans and Democrats, according to Pew Research).

In light of this long history of providing an invaluable and irreplaceable service, the public is understandably and justifiably alarmed by recent efforts to undermine the USPS at a time when many depend on this vital service more than ever. Tens of millions of people will rely on the USPS this year to register to vote, to receive polling information, and to vote by mail. Voters should be able to receive a mail-in ballot, and have confidence that their completed ballot will be delivered promptly to election officials. Particularly during a deadly health pandemic, the USPS should be given the resources that it needs to deliver mail-in ballots in a timely manner, as no



one should have to choose between protecting their health and exercising their right to vote. LGBTQ people are particularly at risk of having health complications due to a coronavirus infection because they are more likely to have compromised respiratory systems. For example, 21% of LGBTQ people have asthma compared to 14% of non-LGBTQ people.

The postal service's importance goes well beyond the election. We represent communities that are especially dependent upon the mail for prescription medications, especially medications for transgender people and people living with HIV. The reliance on the postal service is also especially profound for those in our communities of advanced age or with disabilities, and/or those living in rural or Native communities who often lack other affordable delivery options. There are nearly 4 million LGBTQ people living in rural America and 3 million LGBTQ people 50 years of age and older. It is no overstatement to say that the health and well-being of millions of people depends on a secure and reliable USPS.

To ensure that the USPS can continue to play the vital role it always has for our economy, our health, and our democracy, please pass H.R. 8015, the Delivering for America Act. This is a bipartisan issue, and we urge you to exercise the leadership necessary to advance this important legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "AWD", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Alphonso David
President, Human Rights Campaign

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin Jennings".

Kevin Jennings
CEO, Lambda Legal