

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.305

Reps. Brenda Carter, Cynthia Johnson, Tyrone Carter, Chirkun, Peterson, Garrett, Hammoud, Witwer, Clemente, Cherry, Sneller, Rabhi, Camilleri, Bolden, Manoogian, Ellison, Stone, Hoadley, Warren, Wittenberg, Tate, Guerra and Kuppa offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to urge the U.S. Congress, the President of the
2 United States, and the U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors to
3 take swift action to ensure that the United States Postal Service
4 remains an independent, fully funded agency of the federal
5 government that is accessible and equipped to deliver all mail and
6 provide all other services in a timely manner.

7 Whereas, The United States Postal Service is essential to the
8 flow of information and goods in our country. This independent
9 agency serves as a national communication network for people and
10 communities across the country. It is foundational to the



1 functioning of the economy and our system of commerce; and

2 Whereas, The United States Postal Service maintains a
3 universal network that connects all rural, suburban, and urban
4 communities across the country, encompassing nearly 159 million
5 addresses. It carries necessary correspondence and goods to each
6 community, including prescriptions and critical medications. Close
7 to 120 million prescriptions are filled annually by the federal
8 Veterans Administration and delivered daily to nearly 330,000
9 veterans across the country. Moreover, small businesses stay
10 connected with their customers no matter where they live through
11 the Postal Service; and

12 Whereas, The United States Postal Service is at the center of
13 the nation's mailing industry, which generates \$1.6 trillion
14 annually and employs approximately 7.3 million individuals. The
15 Postal Service directly employs 630,000 people, including 97,000
16 military veterans; and

17 Whereas, Recent Postal Service operational changes implemented
18 by the Trump administration have resulted in the disruption, delay,
19 and slowdown of mail delivery; the removal of some curbside mail
20 collection boxes; a ban on overtime work for employees; and a ban
21 on employees making extra trips to deliver mail when necessary.
22 Even more troubling is the reduction in mail processing facilities
23 and the removal of time-saving sorting machines, which has resulted
24 in close to 400,000 pieces of mail going unsorted in the United
25 States Postal Service Metroplex in Pontiac alone, one of the
26 busiest in the country; and

27 Whereas, In the midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic, more people
28 than ever are voting by mail to protect the health of themselves
29 and their families. However, in light of the operational changes

1 implemented under the Trump administration, the United States
2 Postal Service has recently warned 46 states, including the state
3 of Michigan, that it cannot guarantee that ballots cast by mail for
4 the November 2020 general election will be delivered in time to be
5 counted, even if mailed by state deadlines, potentially resulting
6 in the suppression of millions of votes and undermining democracy;
7 and

8 Whereas, Under federal statute, the United States Postal
9 Service must "be operated as a basic and fundamental service
10 provided to the people by the Government of the United States,
11 authorized by the Constitution, created by Act of Congress, and
12 supported by the people." Further, it is obligated to "provide
13 prompt, reliable, and efficient services to patrons in all areas"
14 and "render services to all communities," in such a way so that
15 "the costs of establishing and maintaining the Postal Service shall
16 not be apportioned to impair the overall value of such service to
17 the people"; and

18 Whereas, Postmaster General Louis DeJoy's status as a mega-
19 donor of President Trump, coupled with owning more than \$75 million
20 in companies competing with the Postal Service, has the appearance
21 of a conflict of interest. This potential conflict, plus Mr.
22 DeJoy's administrative actions as stated above, call into question
23 his ability to run the agency as an independent, non-partisan
24 entity entrusted with delivering the mailed votes of millions of
25 Americans this fall; now, therefore, be it

26 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That we urge the
27 U.S. Congress, the President of the United States, and the U.S.
28 Postal Service Board of Governors to take swift action to ensure
29 that the United States Postal Service remains an independent, fully



1 funded agency of the federal government that is accessible and
2 equipped to deliver all mail and provide all other services in a
3 timely manner; and be it further

4 Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the
5 President of the United States, the President of the United States
6 Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives,
7 the members of the Michigan congressional delegation, and the U.S.
8 Postal Service Board of Governors.