

August 27, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Ron Johnson  
Chairman, Senate Homeland Security and  
Governmental Affairs Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Gary C. Peters  
Ranking Member, Senate Homeland Security  
and Governmental Affairs Committee  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Chairman Johnson, and Ranking Member Peters:

On behalf of the 87 LGBTQ civil rights and community organizations listed below, we write to urge you to immediately bring the Senate back into session and take up the bipartisan House-passed 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, it is imperative that the Senate return to session and pass H.R. 8015, the Delivering for America Act. This is a bipartisan issue, and we urge you to exercise the leadership necessary to ensure the health and stability of this crucial institution.

Sincerely,

Advocates for Youth  
AIDS United  
Athlete Ally  
Center for Disability Rights  
Family Equality  
FORGE, Inc.  
GLMA: Health Professionals Advancing LGBTQ Equality  
Human Rights Campaign  
Lambda Legal  
Minority Veterans of America  
Modern Military Association of America  
Movement Advancement Project  
National Black Justice Coalition  
National Center for Transgender Equality  
National Equality Action Team (NEAT)  
National LGBT Cancer Network  
National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund  
Out & Equal  
People For the American Way  
PFLAG National  
Planned Parenthood Action Fund  
PowerOn, a program of LGBT Technology Institute  
Pride at Work  
SAGE (Advocacy and Services for LGBT Elders)  
The Fenway Institute  
The Trevor Project  
TransFamily Support Services

State/Local Organizations

Atlanta Pride Committee  
Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Community Center  
Brooklyn Community Pride Center  
Center on Halsted  
Compass LGBTQ Community Center  
Equality California

Equality Community Center  
Equality North Carolina  
Four Corners Rainbow Youth Center  
Gay City: Seattle's LGBTQ Center  
GenderNexus  
Guilford Green Foundation & LGBTQ Center  
Howard Brown Health  
Hudson Valley LGBTQ Community Center, Inc.  
Identity, Inc.  
Jacksonville Area Sexual Minority Youth Network, Inc. (JASMYN)  
LGBTQ Center Orange County  
LGBT Center of Greater Reading  
LGBTQ Community Center of the Desert  
Los Angeles LGBT Center  
Mazzoni Center  
Newark LGBTQ Community Center  
North County (San Diego) LGBTQ Resource Center  
Oakland LGBTQ Community Center  
Oklahomans for Equality Dennis R Neill Equality Center  
one-n-ten  
Out Boulder County  
OutCenter of Southwest Michigan  
OutFront Kalamazoo  
OutNebraska  
Perceptions  
Pride Center of Staten Island  
Pride Center of the Capital Region  
Pride Center San Antonio  
Pride Community Center, Inc  
Pride Community Services Organization  
Rainbow Families  
Resource Center (Dallas, TX)  
Rockland County Pride Center  
Sacramento LGBT Community Center  
Seacoast Outright  
Shenandoah LGBTQ Center  
Silver State Equality-Nevada  
SOJOURN  
Stonewall Columbus  
The Center on Colfax  
The Gala Pride and Diversity Center  
The LGBT Center  
The LGBTQ+ Community Center of Southern Nevada  
The LOFT LGBT Center  
The Montrose Center  
The Pride Center at Equality Park

The San Diego LGBT Community Center  
The Source LGBT+ Center  
The Spahr Center  
Transgender Michigan  
TriVersity Center for Gender and Sexual Diversity  
Waves Ahead Puerto Rico  
We Are Family  
William Way LGBT Community Center