

## National Association of Letter Carriers

BRIAN L. RENFROE President

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February 1, 2024

President Joseph R. Biden The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

On behalf of the 285,000 active and retired letter carriers represented by the National Association of Letter Carriers, I write to you once again to urge you to take executive action directing the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to accurately value the Postal Service's pension assets and liabilities.

As stated in a previous joint letter from all four postal unions in March 2021 (attached), this is an urgent matter and time is now running out for you to take action. The Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006 created a mechanism to more fairly allocate postal pension liabilities and to transfer the resulting surpluses in the postal portion of the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund (CSRDF) to the Postal Service Retiree Health Benefit Fund (PSRHBF) at designated intervals. The next transfer under the law is scheduled for 2025 and the one after that, in 2030 is too long to wait.

Our union is currently near the end of the collective bargaining process with USPS. Directing OPM to accurately value the Postal Service's pension assets and liabilities would have a direct and immediate positive impact on our collective bargaining process as we seek an agreement that will fairly reward hundreds of thousands of hard-working and dedicated letter carriers. Executing this action would support our union, our members, and our collective bargaining efforts. Continued failure to execute this action harms these efforts.

Given the positive steps Congress has taken to restore financial stability to the agency through the 2022 enactment of the Postal Service Reform Act, we urge your administration to fulfill its promise to take action to achieve postal pension fairness, a step that will save USPS several billions in annual amortization payments to the CSRDF and bolster the long-term solvency of the PSRHBF.

Americans rely on the Postal Service for lifesaving medications, Social Security checks, essential packages and to cast their votes. Executive action is necessary to secure the financial future of the Postal Service, the essential agency that employs the hundreds of thousands of dedicated public servants we represent.

Sincerely,

Brian L. Renfroe President

BR/MA/jg









March 25, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As the Presidents of the American Postal Workers Union, the National Association of Letter Carriers, the National Postal Mail Handlers Union, and the National Rural Letter Carriers Association, and as the representatives of more than 500,00 postal employees, we request a meeting with you to discuss needed steps to improve the financial future of the United States Postal Service, an essential agency that employs a third of the federal civilian workforce.

As you may know, the USPS has reported considerable financial losses over the past fifteen years. These losses are not due to technological changes or the inability to economically process and deliver mail and packages to customers. Instead, they are largely due to public policy choices made by Congress related to the funding of future retirement benefits. The unique and unfair mandate to prefund retiree health benefits decades in advance, for example, accounts for 82 percent of the USPS losses since 2007. We are seeking bipartisan reform legislation to address these policies. But your administration could help with swift administrative action regarding accounting and actuarial practices related to the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS).

In 2010, the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) issued a report calling for the use of private sector accounting practices to accurately calculate the Postal Service's CSRS liabilities and to fairly allocate CSRS liabilities between the postal and federal accounts within the Civil Service Retirement and Disability Fund, a trust fund managed by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM). The PRC found the Postal Service was being forced to pay an unfair and disproportionate share of CSRS pension liabilities in the comingled federal-postal pension fund. The Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act of 2006 (PAEA) gave the OPM the authority to correct these actuarial/accounting practices, which would add \$85 billion to the Postal Service's CSRS account and directed that the resulting surplus in the postal CSRS account be used to fund future retiree health benefits.

This change in practice can be accomplished by Executive Order. Directing the OPM to implement the recommendations of the 2010 PRC report would save the USPS several billions in annual amortization payments for the CSRS and the Postal Service Retirement Health Benefits Funds.

We would like to discuss with you and your staff the benefits of this "postal-only" calculation and how we all can work together to secure the financial future of the Postal Service. Thank you for your attention and consideration on this matter, and your continued support for working people and the public postal service.

Sincerely,

Fredric V. Rolando

President

**National Association of Letter Carriers** 

Paul V. Hogrogian

President

National Postal Mail Handlers Union

Mark Dimondstein

President

American Postal Workers Union

Ronnie W. Stutts

President

**National Rural Letter Carriers Association** 

Much Duralite