June 26, 2018

Dear Representative,

On behalf of more than 500,000 postal employees represented by all four postal unions, we appreciate your recent vote against the Securing the International Mail Against Opioids Act of 2018/the Synthetics Trafficking and Overdose Prevention (STOP) Act of 2018 (H.R. 5788), in its amended form.

We know that the optics of this bill and issue are difficult, which is why we appreciate that you were able to see this bill, as amended, for what it actually is. This bill will not end the opioid epidemic. The United States Postal Service’s universal service obligation requires us to provide shipping and mailing services to all Americans and, though our international treaty commitments, to virtually the entire world. Private shippers dismiss these obligations. The amendments they added to H.R. 5788 are designed to reduce competition from the Postal Service and damage it financially.

The last-minute amendments that accelerated the timeline under which USPS customers must provide advanced electronic data (AED) and imposed financial penalties on the agency if USPS customers fail to meet the timeline, were totally unreasonable.

Thank you for looking out for the Postal Service and its employees. We remain committed to working with you and your colleagues in fighting this epidemic and welcome any opportunity to provide our input and expertise on this matter.

Sincerely,

Fredric V. Rolando
President
National Association of Letter Carriers

Mark Dimondstein
President
American Postal Workers Union

Paul V. Hogrogian
President
National Postal Mail Handlers Union

Jeanette Dwyer
President
National Rural Letter Carriers Association