

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 13, 2011

The Honorable Darrell Issa  
Chair  
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform  
Washington, D.C. 20515

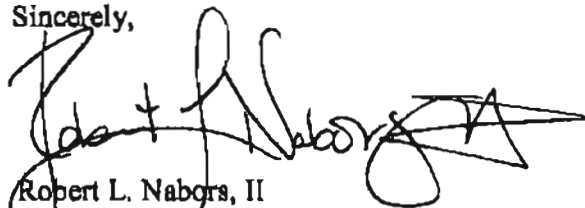
The Honorable Elijah Cummings  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Issa and Ranking Member Cummings:

As the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee considers legislation to reform the United States Postal Service (USPS), I wanted to provide you with the Administration's views regarding an option some have suggested to reallocate the relative shares of responsibility for USPS Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) benefits. After considerable review the Administration concluded that under current law the CSRS allocation could not be changed. While the Administration recognizes that there are competing views as to whether the statutory allocation was proper, the Administration believes the key point now is that we are all trying to take steps to ensure the future viability of the Postal Service which is critical to the Nation's commerce and communications.

The President has put forward a specific and balanced plan that would help the USPS make structural reforms to increase its revenues, reduce its costs, and provide temporary financial relief to allow it time to put in place its new business model, a plan that would protect taxpayers and reduce the budget deficit. The Administration believes Postal Reform legislation should contain these three elements and would be open to considering a balanced legislative plan that instead included alternative forms of financial relief, such as a transfer from the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) to the USPS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert L. Nabors, II". The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Robert L. Nabors, II  
Assistant to the President and  
Director of the Office of Legislative Affairs