

MICHAEL R. TURNER

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

August 14, 2020

The Honorable Louis DeJoy
475 L'Enfant Plaza SW
Washington, D.C. 20260

Mr. Postmaster General,

Since election security is of the utmost importance, I am requesting that the USPS implement procedures in coordination with the State of Ohio to ensure the timely and accurate delivery of election-related materials prior to November elections. The operational integrity of the USPS is a crucial part to preserve the very function and essence of our democracy.

Over the past decade, the USPS has implemented plans to consolidate operations across Ohio, which has resulted in the closure of several mail processing plants. This consolidation has occurred in part as a function of sought operational savings for the USPS. Unfortunately, this process has created delays, added time to the delivery of each mail piece, and an increase in complaints from constituents about lost or discarded mail.

Due to the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, absentee voting will likely increase in efforts to reduce the spread of the coronavirus. Fortunately, Ohio has successfully and effectively executed absentee voting for years now.

I recommend that USPS work with Ohio Secretary of State, Frank LaRose, to conduct nightly all-clear inspections of mail facilities to ensure all election-related materials are sent out. In addition, more mail processing takes place within Ohio, and that local USPS representatives coordinate with local boards of elections to establish intake and drop-off points for election-related materials.

At this point, the USPS will likely serve as the single most pivotal enabler of the very democratic system that both you and I have sworn to serve. The rights of every American are at stake here. Please ensure that any issues with the delivery of mail this fall do not impede my constituents' right to vote.

Thank you again for your continued leadership and service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael R. Turner".

MICHAEL TURNER
Member of Congress