

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

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<https://oversight.house.gov>

April 24, 2026

The Honorable David Steiner
Postmaster General
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260

The Honorable Amber F. McReynolds
Chair, Board of Governors
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260

The Honorable Doug Tulino
Deputy Postmaster General, Chief Operating
Officer and Chief Human Resources Officer
U.S. Postal Service

The Honorable Derek T. Kan
Vice Chairman
Board of Governors
U.S. Postal Service

The Honorable Daniel M. Tangherlini
Board of Governors
U.S. Postal Service

The Honorable Ronald A. Stroman
Board of Governors
U.S. Postal Service

Dear Members of the Board of Governors of the U.S. Postal Service:

We write to express our alarm regarding President Trump's executive order (EO) that seeks to disenfranchise voters and undermine vote by mail in the 2026 elections and beyond. Voting by mail is unequivocally safe and secure.¹ EO 14399, *Ensuring Citizenship Verification and Integrity in Federal Elections*, is an illegal attempt to erode democracy and undermine the sanctity of our nation's voting system. We oppose any efforts by the Postal Service to implement this EO and urge you to refuse to implement these unconstitutional and illegal orders by the President. We also request an urgent briefing to discuss any implications of this order and the threats raised by its implementation.

The Postal Service functions as an independent, self-sustaining agency that relies on its own revenues to fund the postal network.² The president has no authority to direct the Postal

¹ Brookings, *Mail Voting in the US: Data Points to Very Low Fraud and Significant Benefits to Voters* (Nov. 6, 2025) (online at www.brookings.edu/articles/mail-voting-in-the-us-data-points-to-very-low-fraud-and-significant-benefits-to-voters/); Bipartisan Policy Center, *Mail Voting is Safe and Secure* (Feb. 20, 2026) (online at <https://bipartisanpolicy.org/report/mail-voting-is-safe-secure/>).

² U.S. Postal Service Office of the Inspector General, *Business or Public Service? Insights Into the Unique Laws and Regulations Applying to the Postal Service* (Aug. 2, 2024) (online at www.uspsoig.gov/sites/default/files/reports/2024-08/risc-wp-24-006.pdf).

Service’s handling of ballots. It is ultimately accountable to the Board of Governors.³ Further, Congress prescribed a clear mandate for the Postal Service: to deliver efficient, reliable, and universal service to all Americans.⁴

The President’s EO on citizenship and elections would illegally undermine the Postal Service’s universal service obligation, which is supposed to “provide prompt, reliable, and efficient services to patrons in all areas and shall render postal services to all communities.”⁵ According to federal law, the Postal Service is prohibited from “mak[ing] any undue or unreasonable discrimination among users of the mails.”⁶ Under this EO, the Postal Service would be required to perform election administration duties and restrict mail-in voting for eligible voters. That would be illegal. The order constitutes a far-reaching attack on our democracy with no adequate recourse for harmed American citizens.

Moreover, the Constitution is clear that states have primary authority for regulating the administration of federal elections and Congress has the authority to “make or alter” such regulations.⁷ It gives neither the president nor any federal agency such power.⁸

We are also deeply concerned that the requirements of this EO are unclear and contradictory, and would therefore disenfranchise voters and burden election administrators. First, any citizenship list developed and shared in response to this EO will be inaccurate and incomplete. This creates conditions where many jurisdictions could be considered out of compliance with the EO simply by following local election laws. For example, the EO asks states to provide voter lists to the Postal Service 60 days before an election.⁹ However, all 50 states and the District of Columbia allow voters to register to vote and apply to vote by mail until and up to 60 days before an election, with some states setting vote by mail application deadlines much later than 60 days.¹⁰ Roughly 700,000 Americans will turn 18 up to and until 60 days before the 2026 general election and thus are eligible to vote.¹¹ Thousands of people become

³ 39 U.S.C. § 202; 9 U.S.C. § 205.

⁴ 39 U.S.C. § 101; Pub. L. No. 91-375 (1970).

⁵ 39 U.S.C. § 101.

⁶ 39 U.S.C. § 403(c).

⁷ Article I, Section 4, Clause 1, U.S. Constitution.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ Exec. Order No. 14399, 91 Fed. Reg. 17125 (Mar. 31, 2026)

¹⁰ *See, e.g.,* Vote America, *Absentee and Mail Ballot Deadlines* (updated Jan. 9, 2026) (online at www.voteamerica.org/absentee-mail-ballot-deadlines/); Commonwealth of Kentucky State Board of Elections, *Eligibility for Absentee Voting* (online at <https://elect.ky.gov/Voters/Pages/Absentee-Voting-By-Mail.aspx>) (accessed Apr. 9, 2026); Colorado sends all registered voters a mail ballot. *See* Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold, *Mail in Ballot FAQs* (online at www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/FAQs/mailBallotsFAQ.html) (accessed Apr. 8, 2026).

¹¹ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Vital Statistics System, *Births: Final Data for 2008* (Dec. 8, 2010) (online at www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/nvsr/nvsr59/nvsr59_01.pdf).

U.S. citizens every day and are afforded the right to vote.¹² As a result, under the President’s order, millions of voters who are lawfully permitted to vote by mail in federal and local elections could be left off any state voter list provided up to 60 days prior to an election. It is unclear whether the Postal Service would be required to consider these individuals “ineligible” and thus deem their ballots nonmailable. In addition, it is not clear how the Postal Service would reconcile differences or verify the accuracy of state-supplied voter lists alongside a DHS State Citizenship List. This EO will quickly create a two-tiered voting system where some Americans’ right to vote would be denied.

We are also alarmed that the President’s order is part of a larger effort to undermine our nation’s elections and the rule of law. President Trump issued an earlier EO in March 2025 under the false pretext of “election security.”¹³ He has threatened to “nationalize” U.S. elections and “take over” voting.¹⁴ He has made baseless claims about the security of the 2020 election and propagated false narratives about the security of mail-in ballots, despite voting by mail himself.¹⁵ Following Trump’s demands, the weaponized Department of Justice sued or demanded voter information from at least 29 states—which is also illegal.¹⁶ He has also demanded Senate passage of the SAVE America Act, which would eliminate mail-based voter registration and could disenfranchise millions of Americans who would struggle to provide the demanded proofs of citizenship.¹⁷ Moreover, President Trump has endorsed an amendment to the SAVE America Act that would attempt to restrict states from offering vote by mail options to their citizens.¹⁸

¹² See U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, *Naturalization Statistics* (online at www.uscis.gov/citizenship-resource-center/naturalization-statistics) (accessed Apr. 8, 2026).

¹³ Exec. Order No. 14248, 90 Fed. Reg. 14005 (Mar. 25, 2025); The White House, *Preserving and Protecting the Integrity of American Elections* (Mar. 25, 2025) (online at www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/03/preserving-and-protecting-the-integrity-of-american-elections/).

¹⁴ *Trump’s Push to “Nationalize” Elections, Explained*, Time (Feb. 3, 2026) (online at <https://time.com/7366147/trump-nationalize-voting-federalize-elections-fraud-republicans/>).

¹⁵ See *Fact-Checking Trump’s Latest Claims About Mail Ballots and Voting Machines*, Vote Beat (Aug. 18, 2025) (online at www.votebeat.org/2025/12/01/fact-checking-trumps-latest-claims-about-mail-ballots-and-voting-machines/); *Trump Explains Why He Cast a Mail Ballot in Florida’s Election: “Because I’m President”*, NBC News (Mar. 26, 2026) (online at www.nbcnews.com/politics/donald-trump/trump-cast-mail-ballot-florida-special-election-president-rcna265301); Note the 2020 election was secure and had rare instances of voter fraud that did not impact the outcome of the election. See Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency, *Joint Statement from Elections Infrastructure Government Coordinating Council & The Election Infrastructure Sector Coordinating Executive Committees* (Nov. 12, 2020) (online at www.cisa.gov/news-events/news/joint-statement-elections-infrastructure-government-coordinating-council-election-infrastructure).

¹⁶ Department of Justice, *Press Release: Justice Department Sues Five Additional States for Failure to Produce Voter Rolls* (Feb. 26, 2026) (online at www.justice.gov/opa/pr/justice-department-sues-five-additional-states-failure-produce-voter-rolls).

¹⁷ H.R. 22 (119th Cong.); Brennan Center for Justice, *The SAVE Act Would Hurt Americans Who Actively Participate in Elections* (updated Feb. 5, 2026) (online at www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/save-act-would-hurt-americans-who-actively-participate-elections). See also Brennan Center for Justice, *21.3 Million American Citizens of Voting Age Don’t Have Ready Access to Citizenship Documents* (June 11, 2024) (online at www.brennancenter.org/our-work/analysis-opinion/213-million-american-citizens-voting-age-dont-have-ready-access).

¹⁸ *Id.*

To protect the sanctity of our elections and comply with the law, we urge you to decline to implement the President's EO and refrain from any other attempts to burden the ability of eligible Americans to cast their ballots and have those ballots counted. The Postal Service should be supporting the right to vote, not undermining it.

Given the illegality and impracticability of compliance with this EO and Congress's authority under Article I, Section 4 of the Constitution, and our committees' jurisdiction to oversee the U.S. Postal Service and federal election administration, please explain in writing not later than May 1, 2026:

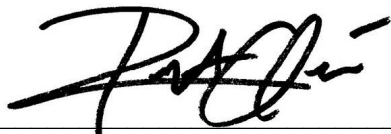
1. Whether the Postal Service will comply with the EO, and
2. Which specific provisions of the EO it will attempt to meet.

We also urgently request a staff-level briefing to take place no later than May 8, 2026, to understand how the Postal Service will treat this order and discuss the issues noted in this letter.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform (Oversight Committee) is the principal oversight committee of the House of Representatives and has broad authority to investigate "any matter" at "any time" under House Rule X. The Oversight Committee has legislative authority over the "Postal service generally, including transportation of the mails."¹⁹ The Committee on House Administration is charged with the oversight of United States elections, including the "[e]lection of the President, Vice President, Members, Senators, Delegates, or the Resident Commissioner; corrupt practices; contested elections; credential and qualifications; and Federal elections generally."²⁰ If you have any questions, please contact Oversight Committee staff at (202) 225-5051 and House Administration Committee staff at (202) 225-2061.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Robert Garcia
Ranking Member
Committee on Oversight and
Government Reform



Joseph D. Morelle
Ranking Member
Committee on House
Administration

cc: The Honorable James Comer, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform;
The Honorable Bryan Steil, Committee on House Administration;

¹⁹ House Rule X, clause (1)(n)(9).

²⁰ House Rule X, clause 2(k)(12).

Mr. Keith E. Weidner, U.S. Postal Service;
The Honorable Tammy Hull, U.S. Postal Service Office of Inspector General;
The Honorable Markwayne Mullin, Department of Homeland Security;
The Honorable Howard Lutnick, Department of Commerce;
The Honorable Frank Bisignano, Social Security Administration;
The Honorable Russell Vought, Office of Management and Budget; and
The Honorable Todd Blanche, United States Department of Justice (Acting).