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Opening Statement of Chairwoman Carolyn B. Maloney Hearing on “Waiting on the Mail: Postal Service Standard Drops in Baltimore and the Surrounding Area” February 14, 2022

I would like to thank my colleague, Chairman Connolly, for holding this hearing today.

As we all know well, the Postal Service is one of our nation’s most vital and respected institutions.

It is so important that our nation’s Founders included it in the Constitution, so it’s fair to say that the Postal Service is woven into the very fabric of our country.

It provides service across the country to every single address—from rural farms to urban skyscrapers—and it adds over a million new delivery points every year.

It binds our nation together in the way that no other organization does.

Unfortunately, its service performance has suffered in the last two years.

Part of the problem has been caused by the coronavirus pandemic. Postal employees, who are on the front lines, have been hit especially hard by COVID-19.

The Postal Service’s recent positive performance during its 2021 peak period indicates that it is indeed capable of getting mail delivered on time.

But performance in certain areas of the country, and particularly in Baltimore, remains far below acceptable levels.

It is critical that the Postal Service address this poor performance as soon as possible to ensure that Baltimore residents receive reliable, on-time delivery of critical mail, medications, and other critical resources.

To help the Postal Service achieve this goal, the House just last week passed my legislation to put the Postal Service on a more sustainable financial footing.

With these reforms, the Postal Service will have the resources it needs to ensure exceptional performance for all Americans regardless of whether they live in cities or rural areas.

I thank Chairman Connolly for holding this hearing and yield back the balance of my time.

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