



RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES
OF CALIFORNIA

June 12, 2020

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Member, United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Postal Service Local Partnership Act

Dear Senator Feinstein:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), we offer our support for your proposed Postal Service Local Partnership Act, which would authorize the United States Postal Service (USPS) to enter into agreements with any agency of a State, local, or tribal government to provide services at a USPS location if those services provide enhanced value to the public. RCRC is an association of thirty-seven rural California counties, and the RCRC Board of Directors is comprised of elected supervisors from those member counties.

RCRC continues to appreciate your leadership in working to ensure that rural communities in California have access to a variety of critical services. One area that needs attention is preserving the viability of post offices and postal services in rural communities. As you recognize, the USPS provides universal access for individuals and businesses to send and receive documents at a universally-set price. Rural communities benefit greatly from this structure. Nevertheless, we recognize the financial struggles of the USPS in fulfilling the role it has played for over 200 years. Reforming the USPS must occur; however, those reform efforts cannot come at the expense of rural communities by eliminating rural postal facilities or dramatically reducing services during the week. One option that should be implemented is to allow the USPS to provide a greater number of services, particularly specific retail services where there is an absence of a traditional retail provider. We are concerned that some of the new products and services that could be carried out by the USPS could take away business from local 'general stores' in rural California. As such, we encourage the use of a public comment period found in the

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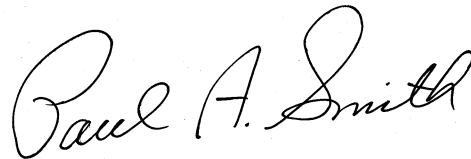
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legislation¹ in order to stimulate an open dialogue with private businesses to ensure minimal overlap of products and services already offered in rural communities.

Despite our one concern, RCRC thanks you for introducing the Postal Service Local Partnership Act. Please let us know how we can work with you to enact this legislation and other reforms that preserve the USPS to continue the services it provides in rural communities throughout the nation.

If you should have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at psmith@rcrcnet.org or (916) 447-4806, or RCRC's legislative advocate in Washington D.C., Sheryl Cohen at cohen@acg-consultants.com or (202) 327-8100.

Sincerely,



PAUL A. SMITH
Vice President Governmental Affairs

cc: The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, Member of the U.S. Senate
The Honorable Kamala Harris, Member of the U.S. Senate
The Honorable Doug LaMalfa, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Jared Huffman, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable John Garamendi, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Tom McClintock, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Mike Thompson, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Doris Matsui, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Paul Cook, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Jim Costa, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Jimmy Panetta, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable TJ Cox, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Devin G. Nunes, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Salud Carbajal, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Juan C. Vargas, Member of the U.S. House of Representatives

¹ Section 3703 (c)(1)