

Statement of Robert F. Rider
Chairman of the Board of Governors of the U.S. Postal Service

On behalf of the Board of Governors of the United States Postal Service, I want to express my gratitude to the President and Under Secretary Fisher for establishing a Presidential Commission to examine the challenges facing the Postal Service and recommend solutions that will ensure the long-term viability of America's postal system.

In their oversight of the nation's postal system, the Governors of the Postal Service are chosen to represent the public interest.

This Board recognizes that the public interest requires fundamental change of the 33-year-old statute that created a self-supporting United States Postal Service.

Acting on that conviction, the Board has been a united and vocal advocate of legislative action to protect the right of everyone in America. From the smallest, most remote towns to the largest of cities, to affordable, dependable mail service.

We are gratified that our efforts, and the efforts of so many others in the mailing community, in Congress, and in the Administration, have resulted in the creation of this Commission.

As Governors acting in the public interest, we are committed to maintaining the fundamental principal and vision that delivery of mail is an important and vital government service, regardless of where one lives or what one's station in life might be.

We offer our full support to the Commission in its efforts to achieve this goal.

I offer my personal congratulations to co-chairs James Johnson and Harry Pearce and to all the members of the Commission.

Along with all of the Governors, I look forward to working with them to assure a strong postal system for America.

Thank you.

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