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U.S. House Oversight Committee Chairman James Comer 2157 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Comer and Committee Members:

HR 3095 would end nearly 20 years of frustration by designating unique zip codes for 72 communities and cities, including the area of Carnes Crossroads in Goose Creek, SC.

I strongly urge you to support this crucial legislation.

The City of Goose Creek annexed Carnes Crossroads in 2006; an expansion to our north that consisted of 2,500 acres of undeveloped land. Since that annexation, Carnes Crossroads has grown into an economic and residential hub. And while it is an important part of our success story, the inability to change its postal designation to Goose Creek has caused major problems and confusion.

Carnes Crossroads is currently designated as "Summerville" in its postal address. Not only is Summerville the incorrect City to which Carnes Crossroads belongs, it does not even share the same county. As you can imagine, this is an almost comically confusing situation for residents to navigate.

For 18 years, the City of Goose Creek has attempted to change this incorrect designation. We have submitted multiple requests to the USPS; each request has been met with resistance.

To be clear, maintaining an incorrect postal designation is more than just a nuisance: It causes real problems that are only worsening as our population increases.

Perhaps most alarmingly, the lack of a clear and correct city designation complicates our residents' efforts to seek – and our efforts to dispatch – emergency services, including critical and lifesaving Fire and Police calls.

Residents are understandably confused about who their elected representatives are — confusion that has led to miscast ballots and a decrease in civic participation. This confusion creates challenges in tax collection, fee administration, and the dispensation of water, sewer and recreation services. It delays development projects, as services areas are often misaligned. These delays hamper economic growth and cause promising projects to be delayed.

Finally, this issue creates a real disconnect for a large portion of our residents who feel isolated, alone and confused. These residents do not know that special sense of civic pride and belonging that a thriving municipality provides. The fact that their government has been unable to fix this seemingly solvable problem is baffling and disheartening.

If enacted, HR 3095 would create a new zip code for Carnes Crossroads that correctly identifies its location as Goose Creek. It would solve the many problems I've mentioned. And it would mark a new beginning for one of our most important communities.

As Mayor of Goose Creek, on behalf of thousands of current and future residents, I ask you to support this commonsense legislation, and solve this issue once and for all.

Thank you for your consideration, and for your service to our Country.

Sincerely,

Gregory Habib

Mayor, Goose Creek, SC