Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers

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June 9, 2026

Rep. James Comer, Chairman, Committee on Oversight
Rep. Pete Sessions, Chairman, Subcommittee on Government Operations
Rep. Kweisi Mfume, Ranking Minority Member, Subcommittee on Government Operations
Members of the Subcommittee on Government Operations



Re: June 4, 2026 Hearing with the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC)

On behalf of the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers (ANM) we submit this statement for the record in the above-referenced hearing held on June 4, 2026. We sincerely appreciate the time and attention which Chairman Comer, Committee on Oversight, and the leadership and members of the Subcommittee on Government Operations, are giving to the critical issues facing our Postal Service.

As noted in our prior statement submitted after the March 2026 USPS hearing, our association represents leading charities and nonprofit organizations, and our mission is to preserve affordable, reliable access to the U.S. Mail—ensuring that America's nonprofits can continue to fulfill their vital missions. Alliance board member organizations include Guideposts, ALSAC/St Jude's Children's Research Hospital, Disabled American Veterans, National Wildlife Federation, Wounded Warrior Project, AARP, American Heart Association, Consumer Reports, and the New England Journal of Medicine. In addition, we have a diverse cross-section of nonprofit organizations as members, as well as suppliers/service providers to the nonprofit community as sponsor members of the association.

Our prior statement described the critical importance for nonprofit organizations to have access to affordable and reliable postal services. We also described the devastating impact that the magnitude and frequency of postage rate increases have had on nonprofit organizations over the past five years, which unfortunately will only be exacerbated by the upcoming July 2026 postage increases.

In this statement, we would like to weigh in on the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) and some of the points raised in the June 3, 2026, hearing as the Committee continues to consider next steps in updating the Postal Service's business model to ensure its financial stability in the future.

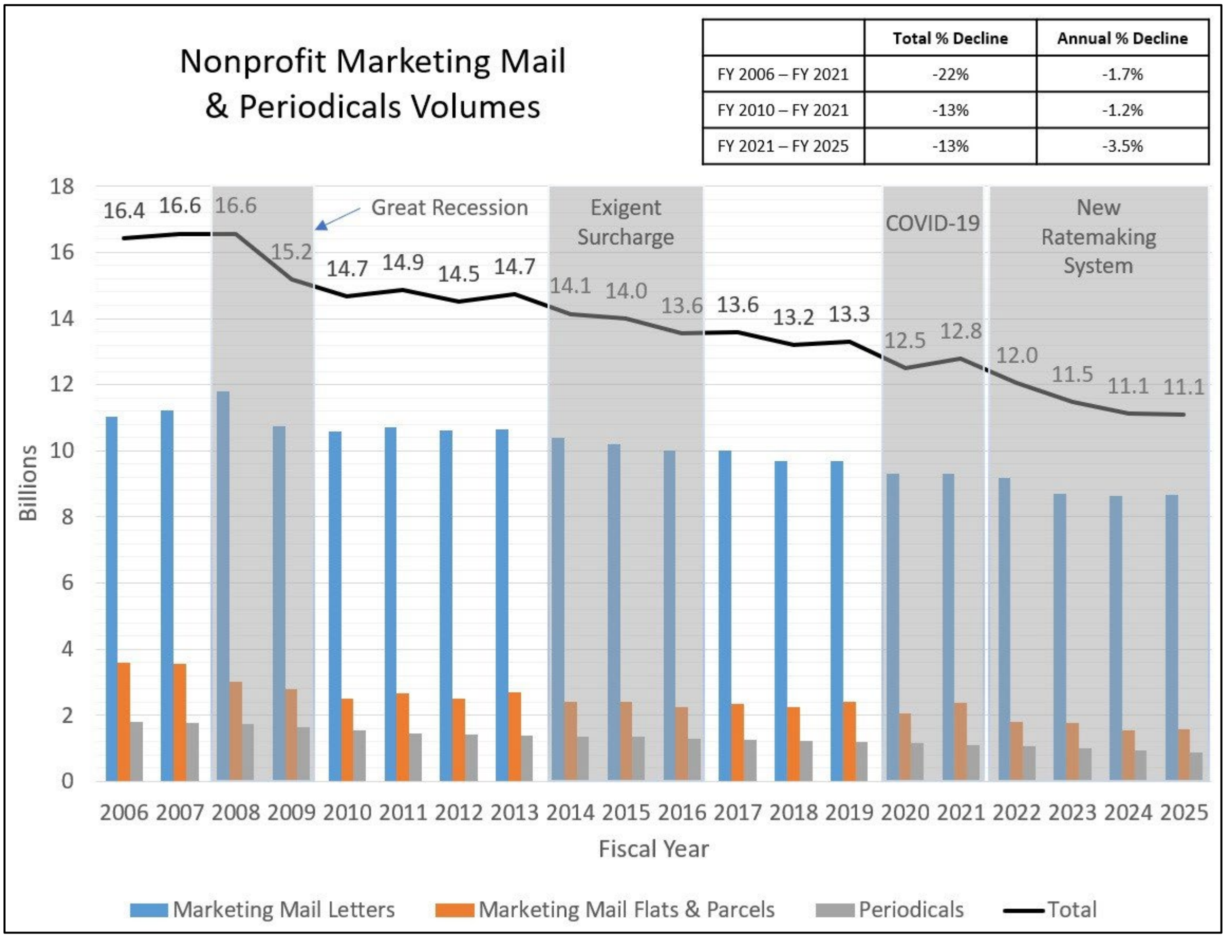
**There Needs to be a Strong Regulator.** We believe there needs to be a strong regulator to oversee the Postal Service as long as it maintains its two monopolies (delivery of letter mail and access to the mailbox). While we do not always agree with the actions of the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC), we agree that there needs to be strong regulatory oversight of the U.S. Postal Service. If anything, we believe that some of the PRC's responsibilities and authority need to be clarified and, in some cases, strengthened.

Service performance oversight is one area where we believe the PRC needs additional authority. As discussed by Commissioners during the hearing, the PRC issues non-binding advisory opinions when the Postal Service proposes changing service standards, service performance targets, its service performance measurement system and other initiatives that impact service such as the Regional Transportation Optimization (RTO) changes. The PRC holds in-depth proceedings in these cases, with input being received from all affected stakeholders, but in the end all it can do is give the Postal Service recommendations which the Postal Service does not have to follow. There needs to be a better process to ensure that service performance does not continue to be degraded, particularly as prices continue to rise.

A Postal Service that is simply granted unrestrained pricing power without sufficient regulatory oversight and without incentives for cost management is a Postal Service that is doomed to fail, and that failure will harm our members and the industry at large.

**The Impact of Pricing on Mail Volume**. Despite repeated references to the magnitude of the USPS' postage price increases over the past five years during the hearing, we believe there is not a full understanding of the impacts of price increases above inflation on mail volume. The USPS network is one that requires density and economies of scale, its efficiency is largely dependent on adequate mail volume. While we appreciate the comments made during the hearing about the need to retain and grow mail volume, there does not seem to be an understanding that price increases above inflation have accelerated the decline of mail volume.

This is particularly true for nonprofit organizations – the rate of mail volume decline has over doubled during the past five years as a result of the magnitude of price increases. As can be seen by the below chart, starting in 2021, nonprofit mail volumes (Nonprofit Periodicals and Nonprofit Marketing Mail) declined by an average of 3.5% annually from FY 2021 to 2025. Over the prior 15 years (which included extraordinary events like the Great Recession and pandemic), nonprofit mail volumes declined at a slower pace -- by an average of 1.7% annually. The annual rate of decline in the last five years has more than doubled, even in the absence of recession and COVID-19.




| | Total % Decline | Annual % Decline |
|---|---|---|
| FY 2006 – FY 2021 | -22% | -1.7% |
| FY 2010 – FY 2021 | -13% | -1.2% |
| FY 2021 – FY 2025 | -13% | -3.5% |

This acceleration of mail volume decline is a direct result of the additional rate authority above inflation given to the Postal Service by the PRC in 2021. To its credit, the PRC has since determined that the changes to the rate-making system it implemented in 2021 are not meeting the statutory objectives and it is in the process of conducting another review of the rate-making system. The PRC also recently issued an order limiting the Postal Service to one significant price increase for Market Dominant products per Fiscal Year, which will help stabilize the frequency of price increases, but does not prevent the Postal Service from continuing to raise prices significantly above inflation. Unfortunately, these greater-than-inflation price increases will continue to drive the very mail out of the system that the Postal Service needs to retain and grow.

We believe that Congress had it right when it enacted the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (PAEA) and included a CPI-cap for postage price increases for Market Dominant products. The USPS' financial condition has not been helped by greater-than-inflation price increases that have resulted in driving mail from the system. We believe that an updated business model for the Postal Service needs to include better incentive and oversight of the USPS' cost reduction measures, which are key to it regaining financial stability.

**Defining the USO**. We agree with the Postal Regulatory Commissioners who testified that there is a need to fully define the Postal Service's universal service obligation (USO) for the future, determine the costs of the updated USO, and then determine how to fund the Postal Service. We agree that defining the USO may take some time, and we think that process is an appropriate next step particularly since the recent waiver granted to the Postal Service by the PRC has staved off a potential liquidity crisis for several years. There is now time to pursue this process thoroughly and thoughtfully, and we hope the Committee will do so.

We support the PRC's proposal in its testimony to allow it to oversee, with Congressional guidance, a process to fully define the USO for the future, as long as there is close involvement with all postal stakeholders and an opportunity to provide feedback on what users of the mail system need in terms of the USO. The PRC is well-versed in issues related to the USO since it produces an annual report on the cost of the USO based on seven basic attributes on universal service. We believe that Congress, the PRC, and postal stakeholders must review the basic attributes and metrics for the future as part of this process.

**In Conclusion**. The Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers supports the need for fully defining the Postal Service's universal service obligation and the costs to provide such services. We cannot have an educated discussion on how to fund the Postal Service for the future until its USO is defined. We believe that significant changes are needed to the Postal Service's business model to ensure its financial viability in the future, and we believe guardrails are necessary to prevent the USPS from above-inflation price increases that are driving mail volume reductions that weaken its ability to operate efficiently and affordably.

We urge Congress to use the current timeframe wisely and undertake a process to define the USO needed for the future to serve America.

Please let us know if there is any additional information we can provide. I can be reached at the below email or phone number.

Sincerely,

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