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19TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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May 11, 2012

Postmaster General Patrick R. Donahoe
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear Postmaster General Donahoe,

As you know, the United States Senate passed S. 1789, the 21st Century Postal Service Act of 2012, on April 25, 2012. In addition, the House of Representatives has several pieces of legislation addressing necessary postal reform. Although Congress has yet to pass a comprehensive postal reform bill, I urge you to extend the moratorium on closing postal facilities, set to expire on May 15, until both chambers and Republicans and Democrats alike reach a consensus.

In the Hudson Valley, the Mid-Hudson Processing and Distribution Center in Newburgh, New York has been approved for consolidation. This facility serves thousands of residents daily in the region and if the Mid-Hudson facility was closed, it would be difficult to preserve the current requirements for mail delivery. It is premature to close any facility while Congress has not completed consideration of postal reform legislation. While we continue to address postal reform in Congress, I urge you to extend the moratorium and review the current plan for reorganizing and consolidating Area Mail Processing centers to determine if an alternative course will generate the necessary savings, rather than complete closure of these facilities.

Thank you again for your consideration. I hope you will extend the current moratorium on closing postal facilities until Congress can reach a consensus on putting the United States Postal Service on a lasting path towards sustainability and self-sufficiency.

Sincerely,

Nan Hayworth, M.D.
Member of Congress