

**COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS**  
**U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**WASHINGTON, DC 20515**

November 17, 2021

The Honorable Chiquita Brooks-LaSure  
Administrator  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
7500 Security Boulevard  
Baltimore, MD 21224

Dear Administrator Brooks-LaSure,

As you know, the United States Postal Service (USPS) recently announced new service standards for first class mail. The Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittees on Oversight and Health are trying to determine the impact of the new standards, which include increased time-in-transit standards, on the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and its contractors and would appreciate answers to the following questions by December 10, 2021.

1. How many letters/notices are sent by CMS and its contractors each year, and how much is spent on postage?
2. How many letters/notices include a deadline or response date by which the beneficiary must act or respond? Please identify which of these deadlines are provided for in statutory language.
3. How many payments or checks are mailed each year by CMS and its contractors?
4. How many pieces of correspondence are received by CMS and its contractors each year?
5. How much is spent annually on postage by CMS and its contractors, and what is the upcoming budget for FY2022 for postage?
6. To what extent will delayed mail delivery impact CMS and its contractors (please include any estimates related to the expected delays), and what options are under consideration by CMS and its contractors to address delays, if any?
7. Describe any discussions with the USPS related to mail rates/pricing and delivery times for mail from and to CMS and its contractors within the last year.

Your assistance with our review is appreciated.

Sincerely,

  
Bill Pascrell, Jr., *Chair*  
Subcommittee on Oversight

  
Lloyd Doggett, *Chair*  
Subcommittee on Health