

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

October 26, 2021

The Honorable Charles P. Rettig
Commissioner
Internal Revenue Service
1111 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20224

Dear Commissioner Rettig,

As you know, the United States Postal Service (USPS) recently announced new service standards for first class mail. The Subcommittee on Oversight of the Committee on Ways and Means is trying to determine the impact of the new standards, which include increased time-in-transit standards, on the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and would appreciate your answers to the following questions by November 9, 2021.

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

Thank you for your assistance with the Subcommittee on Oversight's review.

Sincerely,



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