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# United States Senate

February 24, 2021

The Honorable Louis DeJoy  
Postmaster General and Chief Executive Officer  
United States Postal Service  
475 L'Enfant Plaza West  
Southwest Washington, D.C. 20260

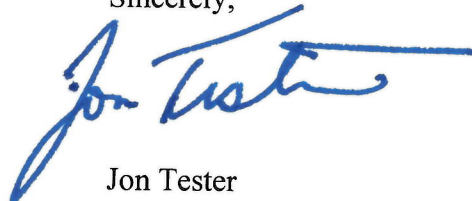
Dear Postmaster General DeJoy:

I write with concerns about the United States Postal Services' (USPS) recent shipping embargo on live animals, most notably newly hatched chicks. While I understand that weather can be a temporary factor in delaying or stopping the shipments of live animals, I am troubled to learn the USPS recently decided to stop allowing shipments of live animals, like day-old chicks, because the USPS cannot handle its backlog of packages. Montanans rely on this service for their livelihood and food supply. I urge the USPS to immediately rescind this shipping embargo and refrain from similar actions in the future.

I am hearing directly from Montanans who are suffering because of this short-sighted decision. Some Montana producers who raise chickens rely on the USPS to deliver day-old chicks from hatcheries in other states. This practice works because those chicks have three days to live from absorbing their yolk prior to hatching. It is absolutely unacceptable for Montana's economy to suffer because USPS does not have policies in place to guarantee a delivery within three days.

Fixing this issue is critical for Montana jobs and customers that depend on a steady source of chickens. Please swiftly take action to resume normal activities. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Jon Tester

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