

**DELIVER THE MAIL!**

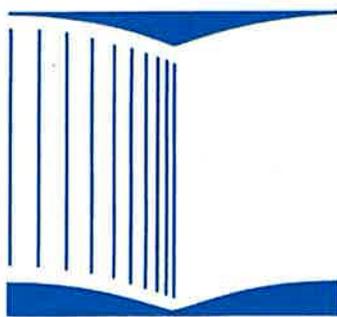


**SOUTH DAKOTANS FOR  
TIMELY, SIX DAY MAIL DELIVERY**

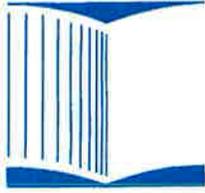
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**A public campaign  
to demonstrate support for  
timely, six day mail delivery.**



**South  
Dakota  
Newspaper  
Association**



## South Dakota Newspaper Association

*South Dakota Newspaper Services, Inc.*

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On Jan. 1, 2012, South Dakota Newspaper Association initiated a campaign to rally support among South Dakotans for timely, six-day mail delivery. We called the campaign "Deliver the Mail." We started the grassroots campaign because we wanted to demonstrate to U.S. Postal Service officials, to members of our Congressional delegation and to others that South Dakotans value and care deeply about good, reliable six-day-a-week mail service.

And South Dakotans responded.

The following pages include the names of South Dakotans who took the time to stop by their local newspaper office to sign a "Deliver the Mail" petition or went online to [www.deliverthemail.org](http://www.deliverthemail.org) to sign. The result in less than two months was that 2,598 people took it upon themselves to sign this petition.

Just as important as the signatures themselves, are the unfiltered comments provided by hundreds of petitioners. Comments that demonstrate how much South Dakotans depend on good, timely mail delivery in their personal lives and in their business and professional lives and how strongly they feel about ensuring that timely, six-day mail delivery continues in South Dakota.

One theme resonated throughout these comments: South Dakotans oppose the proposed wholesale consolidation and closure of mail processing centers in our state and the discontinuation of Saturday mail delivery. Our state would suffer. Our economy would suffer. South Dakotans who depend on timely mail delivery for medical prescriptions, business mail, news, legal documents and much more would be negatively affected.

South Dakota Newspaper Association opposes the elimination of Saturday mail delivery. SDNA also opposes the wholesale closure of mail processing centers throughout the state. We realize that the U.S. Postal Service must seek reforms and efficiencies if it is to survive. But first, we ask that more consideration be given to what South Dakotans are saying before any final decisions are made.

Sincerely,

SDNA Board of Directors and the 130 member newspapers

*President* **Lucy Halverson**, Lyman County Herald, Presho

*First Vice President* **Charley Najacht**, Custer County Chronicle, Custer

*Second Vice President* **Steve Baker**, Pierre Capital Journal

*Third Vice President* **Paul Boom**, Alcester Union & Hudsonite

*Director* **Randell Beck**, Argus Leader Media, Sioux Falls

*Director* **Tami Ravellette**, Ravellette Publications, Philip

*Past President* **Doug Card**, Britton Journal

*General Manager* **David Bordewyk**, SDNA, Brookings

# Comments from South Dakotans Supporting “Deliver the Mail” Campaign

*(The following comments were volunteered by South Dakotans who signed the “Deliver the Mail” petition at [www.deliverthemail.org](http://www.deliverthemail.org).)*

I depend on the mail going through in a timely fashion. I don't use e-mail to write to everyone I know. I also mail my check, as the bank is 40 miles away, and I do not want direct deposit. So many of these arguments are in FAVOR of keeping the postal services as is. We don't need more changes, which will only inconvenience the people who still use the mail, and in the long run, the postal service will lose MORE money.

In rural SD and small towns we need the delivery of mail on a daily basis and need mail sent in state to arrive at its destination within one to two days.

We are distressed by the many negative effects of the closing of the mail processing center at Mobridge. Our mail now goes to Bismarck, ND for processing. The local mail comes back a day or two later. Even our in-town mail has to be sent to Bismarck! Some days the mail does not all fit on one truck so some is left behind. We have not received an Aberdeen daily paper on the right day since this started. Sometimes we get three in one day. It took the Mobridge paper 6 days to get to Timber Lake — 40 miles. People don't know when they will receive their prescriptions. We can't argue with the closing of some very small post offices where there are good alternatives but we can't understand the USPS reducing delivery standards so drastically. We publish the newspaper in Timber Lake and we pay about \$12,000 a year in postage; we feel like the USPS does not want our business but we have no good alternatives. People say the Post Office should be run like a business. No real business could treat customers this way and stay in business.

By closing the processing centers, and getting rid of a delivery day, the USPS will actually encourage more people to do bill paying and other correspondence online. At this time, I prefer to write and mail most of my bills as checks. If my mail is delayed in processing and delivery, I will choose to use online payment methods.

Very important that we have overnight delivery in our country! There are many things that need to be delivered each day!

Why would a service business that is struggling decrease service to their customers! That does not make good business sense. Not only that, but they will still charge customers the same amount for a decrease in service! Are they trying to drive customers away??? Keep overnight delivery!

Why is the Post Office going to build a \$5 million dollar addition to the Sioux Falls operations just so the mail can be distributed in Sioux Falls? Huron has a great plant. I thought they were looking for ways to cut spending maybe who is making the decision on this needs to take a step back & look at the whole picture.

There has to be a much better way in resolving this issue.

Please keep six day mail delivery, the small town post offices open (like Gann Valley, Lane, and Alpena), and the one-two day delivery of first class mail. Also please keep the Huron mail facility open. I live on a farm and greatly depend on the postal service. I also do not have a computer with Internet access. I am not the only one without Internet access. I still pay bills with checks going through the mail that need to get there on time.

I would suggest stopping the mail on Saturday first. Then maybe reduce the retirement fund for employees not even hired yet. Hopefully those 2 cuts could keep the processing center opened and the jobs saved. Doesn't make sense to send the mail hundreds of miles away to go a couple blocks.

We need to keep first class mail - just that - FIRST CLASS!!!! Customer service is what it's all about!!! Always has been-always should be!!!

I'm from SD, grew up there, still have many family members there. I understand USPS's issues with money, but believe it or not, SD is a rural State that can have really bad weather. There are many people that never leave the farm or ranch, many don't have internet and rely on the USPS to communicate with people they owe money to such as monthly bill things, or staying in contact with family and friends. Sioux Falls may be the largest city in the State, but when the snow is blowing, will they be able to get the mail to the small communities around Huron? I doubt that would be a priority for them, but ask someone in Alpena or De Smet....

Save the PO and these jobs!!!

If you are going to close one, close the one in Sioux Falls! Stop killing the small towns of South Dakota.

I support 6 day delivery of the mail. There has to be a better way to cut cost rather than closing processing plants. Mabye change laws that would allow the PO to negotiate pricing with large shippers.

S.E.R.V.I.C.E --- it is the HEART of the United States Postal SERVICE -- cut out the heart of anything...it has devastating results for not only for the employees, but for their families, but the entire nation!!!!

I very definitely desire to be able to have a local post office without being required to drive 20 miles just to do mail business. If members of the Washington "empire" can't figure out how to drop the cockamamie, unnecessary financial leaks existing in so many ill-advised grants and/or preferred treatment for certain individuals in order to allow support of something that actually does make a daily difference in millions of people's lives, then perhaps some action should be taken to ensure that they do not return to Washington again.

I feel that closing the postal sorting centers would be very damaging to the quality of mail delivery service and a drastic impact on the communities who have supported these centers for years. The loss of these employees would have a negative impact on the cities where they are located.

Keep the first class mail, as a businessman I need the mail 6 days a week. If anything just raise the rates for the stamps

Closing Processing Plants, Rural Post Offices, and lowering the delivery standards will result in a death blow to Post Office operations. It will also negatively affect many businesses and elderly customers across the nation. It will also result in a price increase of other delivery companies across the country. Lying off thousands of Postal employees across the country will not help America's faltering economy. The USPS delivers mail to every person in America, six days a week for a very reasonable price. Americas USPS is the #1 delivery company in the world, best production from employees and the best rates. I whole-heartedly support the USPS.

Delivery needs to continue 6 days a week. Americans should not have to suffer with 1 less day a week.

Postal Service needs to keep 6 day delivery and Congress needs to know this is an essential part of everyday life and livelihood of some and part of backbone of our Country.

If the powers that be are so bent on reducing the costs to the Postal Service, perhaps they should set an example by accepting as their wages the same amount that the rank-and-file employees get. I believe that tops out at about \$60,000/year. It would save a lot of money. Also, the management to employee ratio should go back to 1 to 8.5 instead of 1 to 4.5. We lose many employees but no managers in the name of "saving money".

If Allen, South Dakota can show a profit in their business plan, that means that 99.99% of other post offices can do the same. These post offices must be kept open for business as they generate commerce for not only our rural areas, but for all areas. We all depend upon this service, please keep it.

Keep our post offices open!

Cutting service is no way for a service industry to thrive, or survive. There are other viable options.

I am a current 19 year Postal employee. The Postal Service is going forward doing what they want to do because there is no leadership in DC, the House, Senate and the White House to stop them. The pressure needs to be put on Noem, Johnson and Thune along with the State leaders. There are a lot of different things that can be done to reform the Postal Service without delaying mail and taking service cuts. We need leadership! This is all a manufactured emergency.

I pay most of my bills by mail and would really miss not having Saturday mail. I get the Sioux Falls Argus Leader a couple times a week to get ads I use for my vending machine business. I wait impatiently for the mail to come as it is and these closings and less mail delivery days would really inconvenience me and probably even cause a loss of income for my business.

We need to keep the 6 day postal delivery days and also keep the mail processing centers open.

We need to keep our processing in Rapid City as well the other places in the state. It is vital to my business to have my customers get their mail the next day, as well as Saturday. Why should a letter sent from Deadwood to Lead take 3 days to get there? It makes no sense to me to have a letter travel 500 miles to Wyoming only to get sent back to where it originated.

We need delivery 6 days a week; it keeps the sorting departments from getting backed up & keeps the postal employees employed.

I hope that we can get something worked out to keep the mail delivery systems in place as it is already somewhat slow and to take away distribution centers and post offices in our rural small towns would be very devastating. We'd also miss out in the News Papers and all it offers. I believe the government should bail out the Post Office and all the high ups in the Post Office need to have their high wages reduced.

My own personal concern is the additional day(s) it would take for mail to travel from Aberdeen to my children in Sioux Falls.

For those people who live in rural areas, limiting mail delivering to as little as three times per week, which it already is in some areas, would be a hardship, especially for those who receive medications in the mail, or rely on mail delivery for their businesses.

The postal service is one of the few things that work great!!! Let's not change it and mess it up. The rates are great and the mail is very quick. Why slow it down.

If the postal service shuts down the Rapid City processing center, I will go to strictly online bill paying. I mail my bills now, to support the post office, but if they won't support us here in Rapid City, I will discontinue supporting them!!!

Please don't close our mail processing centers. It's hard enough to get mail to & from rural families. Going to a 5 day delivery will even make it worse. Rethink your cutbacks.

Keep our mail service strong with one day first class service six days a week.

We need six-day delivery and we need more accurate delivery. Miss-delivered 2nd class is especially a huge problem.

Please don't delay the mail. It is vital to our business.

I feel if current service is reduced, the PO might as well just hand what's left of their business to UPS, FEDEX, etc.-cause that's what will happen. They won't deliver to everyone every day and it will be much more expensive. Also, what a blow to the local economy. Wouldn't the workers rather have some reductions in benefits-or just not have a job period??

Rural South Dakota's mail is already a 1 day longer service to arrive to many locations. Closing the Rapid City processing Center will add an additional 2 day delay and do not tell me that is not so. It takes the first day for mail from here to get to RC now just to be sorted and a day to sort it and a day to return it add another day to SF a day to sort it and a day back. If you remove the one day of sorting in RC that's five days. 2 days longer for my local payments if mailed to arrive at their destination. I receive my water bill and it is due in ten days from the billing date, same goes for my Verizon and BHP bills. MDU allows more time to make your payment. Late fees are imposed by all 3 if they are as much as a single day late. If you want to close processing centers consider closing East Coast Centers that are only 50 to 75 miles apart instead of our rural services where the miles between them are a full day's drive.

Our bills won't get to us on time as well as our mail won't go out in a timely manner! Instead of moving forward it looks like we are going back into time!

In a state like South Dakota the delivery of mail is very important for six days a week. and stop the closing of the processing plants this will only slow down the mail service that so many depend on here, and at a cost that does little to help the financial issues of the Postal service. Congress needs to do the right thing and address the real issues of the Postal service like give the money back that they over paid which is not a tax payer bailout as some think.

The Post Office is a service to the people, as important as railroads, airports, schools and many other things that are subsidized to hold together the fabric of the nation. The Post Office should not be required to show a profit any more than should the Army and Navy.

Rumors of the death of the U.S. Postal Service are the fabricated exaggeration of those with divergent agendas. The USPS is a living, breathing, and VITAL service to America, part of the fabric of our nation, and one of the most significant pieces of proof of the identity of much of small town U.S.A. ANY further degradation of service, or closure, misalignment or consolidation of facilities is destructive to America's oldest institution. Either Congress or the PMG start to understand this fact, or its time for us to find new office holders who do.

I oppose closing the mail centers as they talk about....What are they thinking? It sure will not help those communities which are already in tough shape economically.

I support keeping mail delivery to a 6 day week.

I firmly agree that we need our mail delivery.

I hope everyone supports this program

I fully support timely six day mail delivery. Please keep our post offices open!

Next day mail delivery is important for educators.

We deserve to get our mail in a better fashion than what they are proposing... we have a multi-million dollar farm and need our mail as much as New York or anywhere else

I depend on 6 day delivery. I receive a lot of items in the mail on Saturday.

Keep the post office delivering 6 days a week.

We need 6 day delivery so please keep it.

Please keep our post offices open and our mail delivery to the six days we live clear out here in the sticks and we need our mail to keep up with everything our letters on credit cards are already late by the time they get to us I can't imagine what it would be like if we lose all of our sorting areas and post offices please listen to us out here in the Midwest we beg you to listen to us!

I do not see where those of us that live in the country should have to be reduced to any less mail service. We pay taxes, we pay bills, and we communicate via mail and would like the convenience of six days a week service. Closing mail processing locations will only make the current postal workers have more congestion to deal with in the same amount of time. I feel there are more efficient ways to save money. You might consider asking some families how they manage to cut back and live within their limited incomes and still meet all their needs.

Please do not stop mail delivery on Saturday's. I am sure there are there places to cut costs. This country is in a mess thanks to Democrats and Republicans that worry only about their party. It is time to forget which party says what and become united. We have too much dishonesty in both parties. This country would be so much better with term and age limits and IRS Audits on everyone that works to make new laws.

Our rural areas definitely need reliable postal services.

By eliminating the 6-day mail cycle, it will affect more than just the days that mail is delivered. Please keep 6-day mail delivery.

Remove the pre-payment for future retirement program the GOP is using to privatize the mail service. The GOP's idea of a jobs bill is eliminating jobs and lining the pockets of billionaires with tax free dollars from the working class. That is mostly what Hitler did in his right wing Nazi government programs; let's learn something from the past.

Our state is small in population compared to many other states. We depend on the USPS to deliver mail we need to transact our daily lives and conduct business. I am a non-traditional student seeking a nursing degree. I depend on the mail to receive communication, updates and complete financial aid. South Dakota cannot function properly without our USPS.

In rural SD we need the mail service. It is a big inconvenience just having the post office open 1 hour early sat morning. I am gone to work some weeks and really miss the outgoing mail on sat afternoon.

I choose to have my medications mailed to me from Pierre. What took under 2 days not takes 7. I have run out of necessary medications. I can see how this will not only adversely affect my family, but the

businesses which are struggling to survive the economy and political stalemates that continue to plague us all. Find a better solution, than this radical discrimination against a rural state.

6 day mail service is vitally important to me. My husband depend on this form of service for the delivery of our medications, we have been using this method for quite a number of years. And with the shortage of some medications, we have noticed a slower delivery time. We send all our payments by mail, no computer stuff for us, also receive a daily newspaper. If we lose a 6 day service, we will probably drop our newspaper, and this may be what others will do. That will affect the major newspapers, a loss for them. Any packages mailed from our address are sent and received through our daily mail service. Our 6 day mail service is a link to the outside world because we live in a very rural area of SD. We are highly dependent on our excellent mail carrier. Do not cut back on our mail service or our mail centers of Pierre and Rapid City; they are very vital to our very rural state. The Postal Service should have been doing some cutting within long ago. I would guess there are some very high wages paid to the people at the top; they need do some cutting back in these areas.

To keep our small town running we need daily mail. We are several miles from pharmacies medical facilities and need the mail for our health needs. We are also several miles from places to get repairs that are needed to run our farm operations and without the mail service can put us several days behind on jobs that need to be done immediately to keep our operations running with no loss of money. Daily and weekly publications are of no use to use if we get them a days after the events are over. Which does much damage to small town businesses? Please consider these things when you are making you decisions for the mail service which is much different than city living.

You're not keeping up with your motto rain, nor snow, shall stop the mail this is 2012 not 1800's there is no excuse for this mess. You're going back in time.

The Postal Service has never supplied itemized figures for their savings they are claiming to be verified. Not to the employees they are displacing or Congress.

It is very disheartening to discover that it take five days to receive a letter that's mailed in the post office you have a PO Box in. I can't even begin to imagine what's going to happen when all of our mail goes to a let's say Casper, Wyoming. We may never even get it. There's even a question as to whether Casper can handle all the mail facility wise. South Dakota needs a financially stable and healthy Postal Service. We are so isolated without it that it would be a great economic hardship on all kinds of small businesses and people. Many people here have no other way of communicating with the outside world. Closing post offices & making people drive 80 or 90 miles to pick up their mail is just absolutely unacceptable. If FedEx can deliver out here door-to-door and make a profit. There's no reason that the post office shouldn't be able to deliver out here, not even door-to-door and still keep their head above water. If they are properly run.

I do not believe that by closing the Central sorting center in Huron SD that you will save a lot of money because the lack of service will only make less people use the postal service; I know that is what I will do.

**DELIVER THE MAIL!!**

Rural farm communities need their post office's open and 6 day a week delivery. Allot of legal and Farm Program paperwork has to be delivered on the second day of mailing. Thank you. Larry and Darlene Warne, Bryant, SD

I support the deliver the mail campaign.

South Dakota needs to keep Dakota Central open! They process a lot of mail and to keep it going smoothly we need at least 2 processing plants. Keep Dakota central!

Save our mail services; save our rural post offices - they are the lifeline in rural communities which our state of SD is made of!

The new plan(s) has far reaching consequences to an already hurting economy in rural America. I cannot believe this is even a consideration for saving any money, anywhere.

This will slow the news and mail service down; also chances of losing mail will increase.

Please do not close any post offices and for heaven's sake do not stop Saturday deliveries. Thank you.

I highly recommend that you leave all of our post offices open and continue Saturday deliveries. Thanks.

I am a rural carrier. We need 6 day delivery. And the subs need to keep their jobs.

As rural South Dakota ranchers we rely on our mail service to deliver our parts and veterinary supplies the next day. Not three or more days later. We need our mail delivered in a timely fashion. Living far away from available retailers it is necessary for the mail to deliver to us at least 6 days a week.

I receive baby chickens via the mail. I am concern if the Postal Service would reduce services I would not be able to receive the chicks in the mail in a timely manner. I send bakery products to my customers using the Postal Service since other package service is limited or a pain to coordinate.

We need to save the small town post offices and Sat delivery.

We support USPS to continue in rural SD as well as the remainder of the US. Why should we the common citizen striving to survive in rural SD need to pay for the exorbitant retiree benefits, no one pays for ours.

Stopping delivery of mail on Saturdays would place a burden on the businesses of this state. I am not in favor of this happening.

PERHAPS THE POST OFFICE AND ALL FEDERAL EMPLOYEES SHOULD BE ON THE SAME TYPE OF RETIREMENT PROGRAM AS MOST AMERICANS ARE. THE COULD POSSIBLY LOWER THEIR OPERATING COSTS. IF THE COMPANY THAT I WORK FOR IS SLIDING DONWARD FINACIALLY WE ALL TOOK A CUT IN PAY TO HELP GET US THROUGH THAT TIME AND STILL KEEP OUR JOBS- PERHAPS THEIR WORKERS COULD DO THE SAME? I CERTAINLY DONT THINK THAT WORKING FEWER HOURS IS A WAY TO GENERATE MORE BUSINESS.

I am an employee at D.C. and if they close it down and relocate me I will have to sell my rental properties and the tenants are low income. They will be looking for government assistance also! It will be devastating for the government if this goes on throughout the country.

Please do not close the Rapid City Post Office & Distribution Center. I had a tour of the Distribution Center several months ago and was amazed with the volume of mail that is handled there on a daily basis and impressed with the various ways it is distributed and processed.

The Post Office is a service to the people, as important as railroads, airports, schools and many other things that are subsidized to hold together the fabric of the nation. The Post Office should not be required to show a profit any more than should the Army and Navy.

Please keep the 6 day USPS mail delivery.

You cannot increase revenue in a service industry by eliminating the service!

We already get the mail a day late! This is ridiculous.

Especially in our rural areas, Saturday delivery is important. If you must skip a day, try Wednesday!

If our mail takes 2 to 3 days to get to us our daily newspaper will be 3 to 5 days late and if there is a death we should go to the funeral it would be over before we find out about it.

There are things that come in the mail that I don't wait 3 days to get. If You had to cut out one mail delivery day Monday would be a much better day to cut as not much comes in the mail on Monday. Especially the newspaper which we don't get on Mondays but Saturday we get Fridays and Saturdays as we are in the country and it comes through the mail.

South Dakota is so spread out that closing the Post Office centers and slowing down the mail will make the postal service become more inefficient rather than efficient.

We are in a rural area we need the mail delivered in a timely fashion.

By cutting services and closing the mail sorting facilities would be the beginning of the end for the postal department.

Timely mail service in rural areas provides a vital and necessary link to the rest of the world.

I subscribe to the Argus Leader and if service deteriorates any more there will be no use getting a daily paper whether it be the Argus or the Watertown Public Opinion. I already have a problem with the Sunday Paper which I should get on Monday but for the past month have not been getting until Tuesday and When there is a Monday holiday I don't get it until Wed. and after Christmas I didn't even get the Monday paper on Tuesday. Got Sun and Mon papers on Wed.

I do not want to lose our Post Office. I do get most of my bills in the mail. I do not want to get them online or pay them online. I believe in the U.S. Post office, and I do not want to see ours close. I don't understand why they are even considering this. If you go to our post office anytime during the day, you usually find lines because people in this area still use the post office. I do not want to see it close.

I want mail service to continue 6 days a week and I want our Rapid City U.S. Post Office to stay open.

As a small town, we need the postal service in town and in our rural area. People depend on the mail and the service we get in our post office. We do not need to lose another business in our town. Some people will suffer without their job.

You can't count on e-mail to get all your bills and information, because there is a lot of a person in South Dakota that can't afford internet or have e-mail. I think it is time that we quit taking away from us and giving back.

We need more than one mail processing plant in the state of South Dakota. We take our mail delivery very seriously, and the people of Huron do a fantastic job of getting the job done. Our state-of-the-art processing facility was just built and THAT is a waste of resources. Please reconsider closing our facility. We need it not only for our mail system but for our economic health as well. Thanks.

We do all our business through the mail.

We own a business that would suffer considerably if we are unable to receive mail on a daily basis and in the same time frame that we are accustomed to. We have many farm customers who need parts shipped quickly so they can get back in the field or back to feeding their livestock. The proposed changes in the postal service would impact our business as well as our customers in a very negative way.

Please keep our 6 day postal delivery system.

Keeps the mail service going in Huron, South Dakota.

Keep the Huron SD facility open. As a business person I have never seen where you could cut costs and gain profit by decreasing your productivity and turning what takes 1 day into 3 days. Right now my mail is delivered timely. Let's keep it that way. What about just going to a 5 day mail delivery.

Please keep 6 day mail delivery! We depend on it for our medications, for newspaper deliveries, for sending and receiving legal documents and important mail. Closing post offices in small towns has been hard for senior citizens--they depended on that service for purchasing postage and help in sending packages and mail. It has been a huge inconvenience for them. SD needs to keep Dakota Central in Huron open! Mail service will be cut and slowed if it is closed. Thanks for hearing my comments.

STATES WITH LARGE AREAS LIKE SOUTH DAKOTA NEED MORE SORTING CENTERS eg: HURON ---  
----- RAPID CITY----- SIOUX FALLS !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Closing down sorting centers and smaller post offices would hurt our state in a number of ways.

Keep Dakota Central open, one mail processing plant in SD is not enough to serve the state!

Not having mail processing centers in our SD areas would be giving our economy still another downer. In our vast areas not everyone pays bills by E-mail. Still many of the businesses do not offer automatic with draw. Huge number employees are paid on days of no mail picked up or delivered. This is not a win win situation for the great state of South Dakota. South Dakota does it right! This is why we have new residents come to our state. We help out, work together to solve problems like this.

With the info that have gathered you are not saving enough money by closing the Huron site considering the amount of money that will need to be invested in the Sioux Falls facility. Mike Rowan

The postal service should quit giving huge discounts to bulk mailers of "junk" mail.

I support the Deliver the Mail campaign. Please continue to deliver the mail to our area as delivery has been done in the past.

Rural customers in particular depend on the mail to move 6 days a week.

Keep Dakota Central in Huron open - it helps to move the mail in a timely fashion and gives people jobs we need 6 day a week mail delivery for SD.

I do everything by mail; I would be lost without it! Please don't get rid of it!!

Please do not change our 6 day mail delivery!! Keeping our Dakota Central mail processing center open is vital to our community!

Keep the 6-day delivery. Why on earth would we want to change that? Everything will take just that much longer to get where things need to be & for some people it is a matter of life or death or their jobs depend on it. Just because it would save money doesn't mean it is the best for everyone.

I get all my medication by mail and depend a lot on mail delivery as I am handicapped and do not drive.

Please keep our six day delivery.

Having the mail delivered is something we all count on and being a senior citizen it's very important to be able to get your meds on time...

We all need prompt service...not just occasional service!!!!

We expect good service from all business's why should we expect less from the mail service?

Demand that Congress pay back the money that they borrowed from the US Post Office. Demand that all government agencies pay 75 years ahead for future retirees. That is so ridiculous. How about staggering the non-delivery of mail, e.g. no mail on Wednesday delivered in New York, any on Thursday in Los Angeles, etc. The sorting centers need to stay open to get mail delivered in a rural state. Congress again is the culprit in all of this!

There is no good reason to wreck the postal service by reducing service. Congress needs to fix the retirement system problem that put the Postal Service in the red.

A strong Postal Service is important for states like South Dakota.

My wife and I are retired and depend upon the mail to pay bills. We do not like to pay using the computer.

I APPRECIATE THE TIMELY DELIVERS WHEN I MAIL PACKAGES TO FAMILY AND FRIENDS, WHICH I DO QUITE OFTEN.

By making the cuts indicated, the Postal Service is shooting themselves in the foot because consumers will start subscribing to papers online, thus avoiding the mail. We operate a small business, prompt delivery is crucial to our business. Slow service will hurt our business.

My business, Buzz's Sales ships a lot of parcels through the mail. Customers expect quick delivery. Closing facilities will hurt my small business.

We desperately need our post office. We are a very rural area.

Two or three day delivery for mail is unacceptable.

Please keep the mail processing center open so the mail can be handled faster rather than have it shipped to Sioux Falls.

Please keep the mail on time. People on medications that receive them by mail need this service!

The USPS is a vital part of our community and loss of Dakota Central would adversely affect our small community, not only in Huron, but also in the surrounding areas.

To close the small post offices and mail processing centers will be a hardship for many people in South Dakota. There are many elderly people that rely on their daily postal services and to have to drive to another town to mail international mail or packages would be a problem for many. Please reconsider your decision on this as there are many people that do not have computers either and some people use the mail for their monthly bills and personal letters. In the smaller towns it is also a way to check on elderly that do not pick up their mail at their usual times that do not have family in the area.

It is critical to keep 6 day delivery for our business. I really believe cutting this down will be the end of the postal service, as we will have to seek other avenues for daily delivery.

This is a big mistake for our rural communities!

KEEP OUR MAIL SERVICE AS IT IS. TO TAKE AWAY OUR DAILY NEWS IS JUST PLAIN WRONG. WE HAVE LIVED & WORKED IN HURON, SINCE 1956, NOW WE ARE OLD & RETIRED & NEED OUR PAPER MORE NOW THAN EVER. IF YOU NEED TO CUT CORNERS, FIND A BETTER WAY THAN TO TAKE OUR RIGHTS TO THE DAILY NEWS FROM US, ONE OF YOUR LOYAL CUSTOMERS OVER THE YEARS, & YOUR PEOPLE THAT WORK FOR YOU. WE ALL DESERVE BETTER. DONNA L. KNOUSE

As retired people, and as my husband, Aaron is a veteran, we depend on the mail for the prescription drugs he receives and of course they need to be delivered in a timely manner. I think the U.S. Postal Service can be subsidized by the federal government and perhaps our elected officials could change the law that gives them automatic raises and freeze their salaries for a year or two and I'm sure that would more than take care of the subsidy for the Postal Service.

We need six day delivery of mail!!!! People get their medications in the mail. I get my paper in the mail. Find a better way to get mail delivered to everyone.

Huron is the mail hub for Beadle County and parts of all the adjacent counties. If the Huron US Post Office is closed, some darn fool will have made a ghost town out of a large portion of the eastern half of the state.

If Congress would act on the prefunding of the Civil Service retirement, there would not be a deficit problem for USPS. By changing service standards, the rural communities will suffer the most by mail be delayed for days. There are many other ways to save money for USPS. They are way over-managed and they make big salaries. Why do they need bonuses? Keep distributions centers open and post offices open.

Changing mail service standards will be the death of the Post Office. The Post Office is a service, not a business. Everyone deserves timely mail service and not just the big cities. Rural communities will suffer greatly by degradation of service. Keep distributions plants open!!!

Please keep 6 day postal delivery.

Closing the Huron facility will not save any money as Sioux Falls is unable now to handle its own mail volume and provide as good as service as Huron does. They would probably have to build a larger facility to handle the mail which negates any projected savings.

It is extremely important for us rural patrons to have mail delivery 6 days a week. The service is not the best now, when town sales begin in the morning and our paper is delivered by 11:30 a.m. at best. This greatly affects the town merchants and the whole area economy.

To Whom It May Concern: I am the first stop on the Rural Route I happen to live on; just outside the city limits of Clear Lake. My mail arrives early in the morning. As it is now the routes are a day full of starts and stops, Watertown as a RR Center is 32 miles from me. That sounds like a very long route to me. I understand that you are required by the US Government to prepay your workers Medicare and social security taxes!! WHY YOU!!! I do not for my workers in my business; and, I do not know of any other business with that requirement. Cordially, John M. Carothers

We need rural post offices and distribution centers. There are too many miles between distribution centers to have them close and deliver mail in a timely manner. Pretty soon there will only be about 20 plants in big cities and rural states will suffer. Stop all this nonsense and save money in other areas.

We want our mail delivered 6 days a week. Why not keep Dakota Central open in Huron because it is centralized for everyone in SD.

Keeps my mail coming 6 days a week?

We want our mail regularly 6 days a week.

Please leave the mail delivery the way it is now. Thank you.

We need to keep our postal service because everyone uses it.

I know it's hard to believe but there are real people who still use the post office to pay bills. Closing the sorting centers and eliminating Sat. service will put undue pressure on the elderly relying on their social security to pay their bills due at the 1st of the month or shortly after. I would hate to have to guess how long it will take a check I send to get to its destination.

We need to keep our mail service going! Many people rely on it for Medicines and repairs.

We use the mail service nearly every day for mailing personal letters and business information. We would not like a five day only service, which would also take longer to get mail delivered.

Let the USPS do their work as assigned by the US Government. Every citizen deserves mail delivery, guaranteed by congress.

We rely heavily on our mail delivery.

We need this fast mail service. I believe Huron is the newest and most modern facility that the postal service has in South Dakota. Why abandon it? Huron is also very centrally located so that incoming mail can easily be distributed out from this center hub. Don't let politics influence the keeping of the facilities in Aberdeen, Rapid City or Sioux Falls. The postal service has other ways it could substantially cut costs vs. the elimination of this facility.

Please keep the local mail processing center open in Huron, South Dakota. It is needed to keep our mail coming in a timely, dependable manner. Do not increase the time it takes for mail delivery and continue Saturday mail delivery. South Dakota's mail processing center should be more centrally located which Sioux Falls, is not. Let's work together to make improvements not go backwards in the quantity and quality of mail processing and delivery.

We need to keep our postal sorting and delivery. A major source of business for the rural community.

These actions will create a devastating blow to Rural America. It is ridiculous and totally harmful in this day of fast moving everything that this backward step would even be considered. The hardship this will

bring to the elderly, those a long distance from a town and businesses who rely on delivery either for merchandise to their business or to their customer will suffer immeasurably.

To close this post office would be quite a problem, we get our medicines in the mail and not knowing when we would get the mail would not be good. Also we pay our bills by mail. They have to be there before the deadline. We want to stay in our home as long as we can but seems to me they are trying to make it so we won't be able to. We are 80 and 84 yrs. young and get along fine the way we are now, so don't take that away from us. Thank you for listening.

As a former resident of a farm near St. Lawrence I can see closing that Post Office since it is only 1 mile from Miller and those types of situations are understandable, however people who are located a long distance from a post office should not have to drive a long ways for that service. It makes no sense to have the only processing center in Sioux Falls, if they are to be eliminated why not have them more in the center of the state such as Huron or Pierre. Logistically that makes much more sense. Is the plan to have only on city eventually in the state?

Cut the salaries at the top. Everything in this country is top heavy when it comes to incomes.

Rural delivery is vital to my part of the country. Please keep Huron's Dakota Central open, and continue six-day delivery. Thank you!

Let's keep our mail processing facility open in Huron!

Life doesn't stop for the Weekend---We need these services.

We get many items through the mail, I don't want to lose this convenience.

We need our Mail just like the big city people.

Please keep the 6 day postal delivery and keep the processing center in Huron. We are a rural community and need them both! The current plan to add onto the Sioux Falls processing center doesn't make sense.

I think it is a shame that this Great Country is going to let our mail system be downgraded been these closures. This will just add to the growing disparity between the haves and the have-nots, which includes many of our seniors who do not have the computers, smart phones and capability to get their news or share their thoughts with friends and loved ones. They need to have daily delivery of their newspapers and to be able to send their greetings and communications with their friends and family through the mail. They deserve to receive the timely and efficient mail service that we have developed in this Country.

Do not allow our mail service to be downgraded!

Keep Dakota Central open!

I have noticed since the closure of the Mobridge center, mail takes 2 days longer than previously, 4 to 5 days vs. 1 or 2 from my client west of Mobridge. I also have mail transferred from Denver to Huron as I have an office in both cities, 2 yrs. ago it was a 3 or 4 day transfer, it is now a 7 to 10 day lag for the transfer. I did try the special once a week transfer by priority mail, however that cost \$25 per week which is too costly. Rural America is the backbone of this country and deserves good service. The large cities on the other hand create masses of junk mail every day in my mail in Denver which I do not need or want. Please do not destroy good service in SD and move jobs from smaller communities to the larger cities where the workers could care less. The smaller towns need the employment and the good service.  
Dick Fresca

In the current economic of our great nation, I don't believe it is in the best interest of the USPS to eliminate jobs. We need to simulate the economy, not take working people and put them on unemployment.

Please save our Postal Service Center in Huron, SD!!! We have appreciated & depended upon this mail service & especially are concerned for those losing their jobs.....please, please reconsider your proposed actions!! Most sincerely, Grenada Cahill

Please continue to deliver the mail six days a week and keep Dakota Central open!

I strongly urge the US Postal Service to keep Dakota Central in Huron, SD. It makes no sense to close it when it is a new facility and then spent hundreds of thousands of dollars in Sioux Falls, SD to update that outdated facility. Decisions like that are what has led to the financial fiasco the US Postal Service now faces.

Let's get this done. Why put all those postal workers out of work? This makes no sense to me at all. Why should everything "east river sd. is headquartered in Sioux Falls, SD? When is Huron going to get a break to help w/their employment problem?

This is a rural area that depends on timely mail service for many things. Two to three days for delivery of mail is not a positive thing for this area. It may work for metropolitan areas but not here. We need to work for a better postal service that meets the needs of the people.

I support this campaign.

Please keeps the mail sorting facility in Huron open.

Please continue to support mail delivery....our rural areas in particular as it is the only source of communication that many of them rely on. We need our representatives to start representing the people of the United States and keep the post office open and delivering. Small town/rural America needs their post office and mail delivery.

Please keep our mail sorting center in Huron, SD open, so that us rural Americans can receive the same daily mail service as the rest of the USA! We have so little good paying jobs here; taking this away will be robbing our community.

Not having Saturday mail would affect my place of employment greatly. My patrons need access to the daily newspapers, magazines, and financial materials. Without the Saturday mail it would affect their income and lifestyle.

It is important to receive and send our mail on a timely basis. I don't understand why the postal service would want to regress with their service.

We should keep the postal distribution service here. Having only 1 in the State is poor planning. Also, we need the 6 day delivery be continued as in the past.

ELIMINATE TV ADS WHICH WILL SAVE MORE MONEY.

South Dakota needs to keep Dakota Central open! They process a lot of mail and to keep it going smoothly we need at least 2 processing plants. Keep Dakota central!"

The Post Office keeps raising their rates and providing less service. What is this all about? The postal services says it is because of reduced mail volume, but if you keep reducing the services provided you will then receive even less mail volume since people and businesses will find other ways to send their mail.

We need to keep the mail processing center in Huron and actually fully utilize it as the regional center it was intended to be. South Dakota needs and deserves a high level of mail service, including timely delivery, even though we are a small state in terms of population. Many South Dakotans rely on the mail to get their daily newspaper. Routing everything through Sioux Falls is not the answer, as that center is already close to capacity. You'll be lying off people here, just to hire more there. It will probably result in a need to expand the facility in Sioux Falls, also. I do not see a whole lot of cost-savings here, but a lot of disruption and hardship for the residents in Central South Dakota. I am not against cutting Saturday or Monday mail delivery. That, to me, makes a lot of sense.

It is especially necessary for our rural community to receive their mail on a timely matter. As South Dakota is primarily a rural state. And is very important that the sorting facility remain in Huron the central location of the state.

I support the deliver the mail campaign to keep our mail service delivery in a timely manner.

We really need our postal system to stay as it is. We need the mail processing center to remain in Huron which is the central location of our state.

I would ask you to please reconsider your current plans for reducing delivery days and closing mail centers. I don't believe your plans will encourage use of US mail service. It will only make things worse!

I support the six day postal service. If a holiday falls on a Friday or Monday then we could go without mail service for three days. Many people and business depend upon one or two day delivery. Instead of making the service worse, let's try to improve it!

Being disabled, I look forward to my mail every day!

Please leave our 6 day delivery and our mail processing centers as they are in So. Dak.

We depend on mail delivery for our medications. To drive would be a 70 mi. round trip at least once a week which is not feasible due to health and or weather conditions. I also limit my driving on my 12 yr. old vehicle. As of this week, I have been in bed waiting on medication to arrive which will most likely arrive on Sat with no other options available. I just found out that although the post office is approximately 10 min. from Wal-Mart, where we get our meds now goes to Sioux Falls about 100 mi. away. This alone causes a delay in receiving meds keeping me in bed. I am sure there are many reasons needed for Sat. delivery including checks. PLEASE keep Sat. delivery.

I BELIEVE THAT THE POSTAL DEPT IS A FEDERAL BUSINESS AND IT SHOULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO MAKE A PROFIT. HOW MANY OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES MAKE A PROFIT NAME ONE?

Please do not close any mail processing centers, especially Huron. With the size of our state it makes perfect sense to leave the one open which is so centrally located.

South Dakotans need timely mail delivery six days a week. We depend on the USPS to deliver our medicines, equipment parts, etc. as some of us live miles from the nearest Post Office.

I am in favor of keeping Dakota Central open in Huron SD and in favor of continuing 6 days/week delivery. The situation will not be improved by cutting service and raising prices. Linda J. Cameron

In so many small towns all they have left is the Post Office, what would these people do if they had to travel to get their mail? The elderly people wouldn't be able to. We need these post offices to stay open.

Huron needs to hold on to all the jobs it can...the city will continue to die if more businesses are closed.

I would really miss the mail coming 6 days a week if it didn't. Please keeps it coming.

I look forward to the mail every day.

Closing of the Huron distribution center would greatly affect business in our area. It would add 3 days to all mail deliveries which would be very detrimental to rural enterprises. We in the rural area are already subject to adverse conditions that we have worked hard to overcome. Please do not make things worse for business in the rural area instead of helpful.

We need six day mail delivery.

Because of the size of this state and the distance between towns, many of our citizens rely on the mail to deliver our medications. The sixth day could make all the difference in the world for those on specialize medicines.

Please do not cut out a valuable resource to a very sparsely populated state

Huron is centrally located, facility is more than adequate, and workers are in place. Cost saving measure would be to leave the Postal Sorting facility in Huron, SD!!

As citizens a rural State, we are very dependent on mail delivery six days a week. The pending decision to close mail distribution centers fly's in the face of efforts to stimulate job creation in the United States and would add even more people to unemployment rolls. Please hear our plea to keep the mail distribution centers open and to keep mail delivery six days a week.

Rural America, where the HEART of our small town and farm families live, especially in the mid US, DEPEND ON SIX DAY RURAL MAIL SERVICE and definitely need to keep our DAKOTA CENTRAL to help the flow of timely mail service. Our rural areas loyally support our local post offices for personal communications, newspapers, medical mailing, advertising and billing. Email has cut into mail deliveries true, but not all people do business and communication online. Your concern to find ways to cut back is commendable but we beg your cooperation to consider the negative effects from cut backs on our six day mail service and Exchange offices. Thank You.

I support the Deliver the Mail Campaign.

Our rural local mail delivery is a key essential. My over 70 years operating the farm continues to depend on six day mail service for business and for medical mailing from my VA Service, over 200 miles away. Getting daily newspapers provide news /advertising we cannot get on TV but need to have. South Dakota's small rural towns value our local post offices. Excess spending cuts have many avenues to check into, while preserving six day delivery and central processing exchanges!!

Keep 6 day delivery.

We need to keep Dakota Central in Huron. It does not make sense cost wise to close this site and haul all the way to Sioux Falls and pay transfer funds to employees to go to Sioux Falls.

The Post Office is one of the greatest things about our country! Don't change them! Change congress!

No mail on Saturdays would be a good idea! There IS less mail so scaling back makes sense. But don't close so many offices that the SERVICE itself gets worse. Right now within the state of SD we can often count on 1 day delivery. If I can no longer plan on that, I will mostly likely use the Postal Service even less.

It needs to be realized that there are several elderly people around in the smaller communities. Many rely on the daily mail and newspaper. Yale's post office closed last May and for the ones that had daily conversations there or seen a friend they hadn't seen in a while have somewhat not seen too much anymore. Many don't have internet and have lived with the mailing of letters and bills there whole life. Please let the post offices and Dakota central stay open.

It would make more sense to keep a centrally locate mail processing center in the center of the state. Pierre would be first choice. Better yet would be to change the law on funding the future retirement obligation. Make it a reasonable figure. It is way out of whack compared to other agencies.

The six day mail delivery is a necessity to keep rural America alive. If necessary to save money, charge more for all the junk mail that we get daily and we don't subscribe to. Thank you for your time and consideration. Joan Culver

I fully support six day mail delivery. Please do not compromise services to the American people.

I send mail to my parents and they have a right to receive their mail 6 days per week. Do not discriminate.

The benefits to keeping Dakota Central open far outweigh the suggested minimal savings of closing it.

DO NOT DO AWAY WITH ONE DAY DELIVERY STANDARDS.

Losing our postal facilities will only make our business harder to reach.

My business depends on the mail being delivered in a timely manner. Closing our mail sorting facility would only delay this.

We need timely mail delivery and not just one sorting facility in the largest city --why should the largest city always get everything.

Agriculture in a rural community cannot survive 5 day delivery. It doesn't make sense to put all the sorting in one corner of the state when there already is a sorting facility in the center of the state.

I SUPPORT THE "DELIVER THE MAIL" CAMPAIGN!!

We are not connected to delivery systems that come into the country any day of the week. We are at the mercy of lack of mail services. Please do not take our mail delivery 6 days a week away, for some this is the only means of communication!!

In this day and age, we shouldn't be losing anymore postal services, especially in a rural state like South Dakota.

Please pay attention to the plea of South Dakotans!

Being in remote areas of South Dakota, we depend on timely delivery of our mail. We will be forced to use bill pay or other delivery services if the USPS makes the services unreliable.

I depend on the postal service to deliver my medicine from the pharmacy and to do my banking and receive and pay bills. It is a vital and important service.

We need to keep the 6 days a week mail service for those of us who live in rural America. We do not need to go back to the days of the pony express!

It would be inconvenient and slow up both personal and business communications.

Keeps the mail coming to us in South Dakota? Please keep open the Dakota Central Processing Center in Huron, South Dakota. Huron needs the jobs that it provides. Rural South Dakota needs the mail delivered on time.

Please continue our six day mail delivery, we are dependent on it.

Please realize that rural states need to keep the service we currently have, not to have it decreased. Not getting next day delivery would affect receiving medicine through the mail on time, and would also be devastating for businesses. These reasons are also important for keeping the 6 day delivery we currently enjoy.

Please don't close the distribution plant in Huron because that would add days on a delivery.

Six day delivery is necessary for my business.

If you have to eliminate a day, I would prefer it to be Wednesday. Friday to Tuesday is a long time without mail when there is a Monday holiday.

If we don't get mail on Sat. We won't get Friday's newspaper until Monday. We already don't get our Sunday paper until Monday, by then the news will be a little old. This is especially important for obituaries, as you may miss a funeral you should attend.

Delivery of the mail 6 days a week is vital to not only the U.S. Postal Service but for the U.S. economy as well. If 6 day delivery is abolished, it will do very little to help the financial situation of the USPS and could lead to the loss of more business mailers as they look for other ways to ship their products.

Main distribution centers are critical in our rural state. Maybe cutting new postage designs...

We need to do whatever we can to save our small towns. They are the heart of our state and nation.

In order to pay our bills on time we now have to send them a least a week or more than usual in advance. We can't even send our local bills right in town one or two days prior to the due date. Now we have to send them the week before. Local papers come 4 to 5 days late. This new change in the postal service isn't good for anyone.

South Dakota needs timely delivery six days a week for such things as checks, bills, medications, publications and orders. Not everything can be sent through the Internet and printed off. Reducing operations will grow the gap between the urban "haves" and rural "have notes." Closing a post office is one thing. However, the mail still needs to be picked up and delivered on a timely basis. Use relay stations, if necessary, to drop off and pick up mail. The U.S. Postal Service is proposing to close thousands of post offices and hundreds of mail processing centers around the country. Plus, the Postal Service wants to reduce its delivery standards for various classes of mail, in effect slowing the delivery of mail. And, it wants to end Saturday mail delivery. The bottom line: reducing service is not a good business model for fixing the Postal Service's problems. Slowing mail delivery will only exacerbate the

post office's financial problems because it will have even less volume and people will look for other alternatives that will make the postal service even less relevant to the public. One option for the post office is to look at its revenue side — to be able to mail a letter across the nation for less than 50 cents? How can it be making money on a deal like that?

Let's not go back to the pony express days.

I also have a business out of my home with a post office box. I Lead Promotions Mail from Sioux Falls took approximately 14 days to get to Cavour via Rapid City. Keep all SD mail in SD and in more than just 1-3 centralized sorting facilities.

My mother needs her medications on a timely basis! We cannot grow our business by cutting service!

I want mail 6 days a week.

I fully support the "deliver the Mail" Campaign!

It is a travesty to see the mail go way far away to be sorted then returned back to its local destination. Please do the right thing and restore mail receipt in a timely fashion. I realize there are many obstacles like email, but something has to give. Too many people depend on the postal service...drop back to know Saturday mail....that would be one workable way.... FIND THE RIGHT WAY! Thank you!

This would cost jobs of postal employees. Even though I am low income, I would not mind seeing a raise in postage. Personally, I think politicians should take a 15 % cut in salary. That would save a lot of money.

This is NOT the way to go about saving money in the postal system. It will have a domino effect. People will be dissatisfied with the mail system and look to other venues, further impairing the postal system. All those jobs will be lost, and all that business that is conducted via the mail will be heavily impacted. If the postal system disappears, companies like UPS and FedEx will gather dominance and hike their prices relentless because there is no cheaper, reliable alternative. Cutting all those jobs and processing centers - are they dumb? We're supposed to be improving the economy, not aiding in its decline.

Since the founding of this country, the mail has been an integral part of our communication of both thoughts and business. It is still strong for us. To take it away from areas that are rural is not fair to those who choose that lifestyle in this country. It also seems ridiculous to take mail from this state of South Dakota and have it sorted in Wyoming and then sent back...I cannot see the cost effectiveness of that. Keep the mail strong in all parts of the US, not just in high population areas.

In our community we depend very heavily on the post office for six day mail delivery. Personally, we have a power sports business. In the winter especially it is very important to us to have the option of packages going out and being delivered on a Saturday or the next day. On the personal side I have an elderly mother that depends on medicine being delivered the next to our post office. Our post office is also the communication center for keeping abreast of community emergencies, deaths, births, illnesses etc. You can't put a price on losing that! On the days that the post office is closed its pretty quiet in

town - this would not be a good every day thing for any small town. There needs to be reconsideration of closings and as in any business when things get tough other areas of cutting expenses should be looked at. Cutting customer service isn't always the best thing to do.

We need mail service in rural SD because we depend on it.

We need the mail delivered daily because old news is no news and we depend on the mail for a lot of our correspondence. Thank you.

WE really need our Mail to be delivered 6 days a week to keep us going in this Rural community it is vital to us farmers. Please keeps it coming.

I can't even begin to imagine not having mail service here in South Dakota. We are such a rural community that it isn't feasible for people to go to a post office to pick up their mail. I fully support "Deliver the Mail." campaign.

The U.S.Postal service is an integral link in the fabric of internet commerce. In today's economy loss of a days' worth of business is enough to put some internet sales services out of business.

I feel that the proposed closures will result in a significant reduction in the quality of postal service in SD and surrounding areas, areas that rely more heavily on postal services than more urban areas.

The small towns of SD need the Post offices and regular mail delivery. Just because SD has a small population they should not be denied the mail service every day.

People who actually work the mail (not necessarily management either...a mix of craft and management) should be asked for input on how to fix our Postal Service. Not people in Washington DC who have never set foot in a PO nor understand the infrastructure of moving May.

Rural South Dakotans are NOT second class citizens.

I think they could cut back on some other thing instead of lessening our mail service frequency.

We are Senior Citizens and use the mail regularly for need prescriptions and other items.

At the present, we only get the Aberdeen News twice a week. Today, Monday, we received papers from Thursday, Friday and Saturday of last week. Bismarck ND tells us that they don't have the space to work all of their incoming mail. Maybe if they sent it out every day they would have more space. Very poor management and planning. I feel sorry for our carriers as their hands are tied and they cannot give the good service that their customers received in the past.

Why are we paying higher and higher postal rates for LESS service?? The Postal Service forgot about all the little people that DON'T and NEVER WILL have a computer or plan to dump ALL their personal information onto the internet and communicate by e-mail or pay by internet!! We have a computer but I refuse to use it as our only means of communication. ID theft is all too prevalent without handing our private information to any and every one on the internet. We in South Dakota want our First Class mail

to be delivered overnight, not a "FEW" days; we want our daily paper to arrive DAILY, not some time down the road. Cut the exorbitant merit bonuses to all the upper and middle management, cut the waste of the upper management including far too many supervisors for small numbers of employees. Those changes in themselves would cut millions of dollars. In addition, why don't you review and downwardly adjust the wage scale of all of the management staff. It's the machine operators and the clerks that MOVE the mail along with the Star Route drivers. Just DELIVER our MAIL!!!

Living in a very rural area, daily mail delivery is crucial to the everyday running of our business. We depend on daily mail delivery for business, banking and medical prescriptions delivery.

Mail that we send to towns 18 miles away is taking 5 days and to get our own local newspaper from the town we support to the homes in the country is taking 3 days. It is getting absolutely unrealistic.

I do not want our post offices closed in our state. I need the mail to pay my bills in a timely fashion. I live in a rural area and I need the mail daily to keep up with my daily needs to get mail and sent mail. Post offices are several miles away already to buy stamps and other postal needs.

The postal service should cut costs other places, not by delaying delivery. It is very important for a rural state like South Dakota to keep 6 day delivery.

Keeping 6 day delivery is important to many rural residents in South Dakota. Why not put boxes at the curb where ever possible as that would save a lot of money. Cutting delivery is cutting "service" and it is the wrong way!!

The rural state of South Dakota will suffer from cutting mail delivery to five (5) days. People depend on the mail to bring medications from pharmacies that are over 60 miles away. It would also seriously affect daily newspapers. Timely mail delivery would no longer be an option. We need six (6) day mail delivery.

Mail service has gotten less dependable over the years, but taking 3 or 4 days to get deliver within our own towns and even the state is not right. It will actually force people to use other options in many cases.

I FEEL THAT THE MAIL SERVICE FROM EAGLE BUTTE TO PIERRE OR RAPID CITY SHOULD ONLY TAKE A DAY LIKE IN THE PAST. I ORDERED MEDICINE FROM WAL-MART IN RAPID CITY AND IT TOOK FOUR DAYS TO GET. I WAS GETTING CONCERNED AND ORDERED IT FROM THE LOCAL PHARMACY; HOWEVER, INSURANCE WOULD NOT HONOR THAT REFILL SO COST REGULAR PRICE BECAUSE I HAD JUST RECENTLY ORDERED IT. I COULD NOT TAKE A CHANCE OF NOT GETTING IT. I AM CONSIDERING MOVING ALL OF MY PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS LOCALLY JUST BECAUSE OF THIS TIME FACTOR. OTHERWISE, NEED TO ORDER A WEEK IN ADVANCE. MY FATHER HAD THE SAME THING HAPPEN FROM PIERRE WAL-MART TO EAGLE BUTTE. IT TOOK 4 OR 5 DAYS TO RECEIVE. IN FACT, MY PARENTS DROVE TO PIERRE WAL-MART; HOWEVER, TO HAVE IT FILLED AT THAT TIME WAS GOING TO COST \$200+, SO HE WAITED FOR IT TO ARRIVE IN THE MAIL. THIS IS A BIG ISSUE LIVING IN RURAL SD AND WITH THE ECONOMY HOW IT IS.

I HAVE MEDICINE SENT TO ME FROM PIERRE WAL-MART PHARMACY. IT WAS COMING UP TO THE WEEKEND AND I HAD NOT RECEIVED IT YET AFTER 4 OR 5 DAYS, SO DROVE TO PIERRE TO PERSONALLY GET IT. I WAS GOING TO BE CHARGED OVER \$200 FOR IT SINCE IT HAD JUST RECENTLY BEEN FILLED AND WAS IN THE MAIL SOMEWHERE (???). THIS WAS THE ONLY REASON THAT I DROVE OVER 200 MILES ROUNDTRIP. NOT CHEAP WITH THE PRICE OF DIESEL PER GALLON.

MY HUSBAND AND DAUGHTER HAVE BOTH HAD CONCERNS RECEIVING MEDICATION FROM WAL-MART IN PIERRE AND RAPID CITY IN A TIMELY MANNER. IT IS A VERY COSTLY EXPENSE IF YOU DRIVE TO GET IT AND HAVE TO PAY FOR IT SINCE IT WAS JUST FILLED AND YOU NEED TO BE SURE TO TAKE IT EVERYDAY AND NOT MISS ANY DOSES.

Start cutting by eliminating the door to door mail service in the big cities. Make them have community drop boxes in their neighborhoods. At the very least get the mail to the main rural post offices in a timely fashion. Thank you.

Please keep the 6 day mail service. Thank you.

Please do not stop the Saturday delivery....and keep the smaller post offices open as this is necessary in a rural area to keep business going.

Where I work paychecks are delivered by mail and it is necessary for them to be there for the workers.

We have a business on a rural mail route, we need the mail deliver every day.

I receive my local town newspaper. I receive my paper on Saturday. True, I live in another state but have kept up with my old hometown. Shutting down these postal centers would prevent me from getting my paper as well as letterset. In a timely matter. We are regressing back to the pony express. Maybe it should be put back in so we can get our mail.

With the change in routing of our mail what used to take 1 day is now taking 7 days. It is rather hard to pay bills on time when we receive the bill after it is due. Try explaining that to the billing company. Daily newspapers from the larger surrounding towns are now coming 3-4 days late. I recently received a more current newspaper from a relative in California than I do from a town that's 200 miles away. I really have no issue with a 5 day week delivery but do have an issue with the slowness that has been initiated by the change in routing of mail in this area. For instance, I mailed a payment to a retailer in our town and it took 3 days for them to receive it. Why? It's in the same town - population of 1200. I realize you need to cut expenses but there has to be a better way. Cut window hours, cut Saturday mail, stop paying someone to come up with different stamps all the time, etc. Bring back the service the post office used to offer.

I urge those that can affect any changes to our six day service to leave our six day delivery operational.

Imperative that we keep 6 day mail service in our business and rural area.

Awesome to see Americans Rally for the Right Things!!

The mail service already has been cut so much. Did you know that if you have outgoing mail, the mail carrier is instructed not to walk to your mail box unless you have mail being delivered? I sure would hate for the carriers to be more crunched for time to deliver the mail in a 5 day work week. Please let's keep things running smoothly, after all if it's not broke, don't fix it.

I operate a small business and still send out invoices and receive \*gasp\* paper checks for payment. Even a one day delay in receiving a check could make the difference between paying my bills on time or not. I have several relatives who live in small communities who would be negatively impacted by reducing the mail service to only M-F.

We live 17 miles out of town; depend on the mail to receive small parts for our farm machinery, for repairs; for certain medications, etc. We pay most bills by mail and depend on those payments to arrive at their destinations in a timely manner so that we do not get charged for them being late. How poorly the US Postal Service has been run for so many years is shameful. Somebody is making a lot of money at the expense of the general public. Our government has not done a very good job of oversight of the Postal Service, or this would not have been allowed to happen. I realize that the internet, etc. has probably taken much business away from the Postal Service, but that's no excuse.

Please keep the 6-day delivery.

I need my mail 6 days a week in my business.

I need my mail 6 days a week in my storage business.

I didn't realize how often the mail I send is important that it be delivered quickly until I look at the loss of it. My mother is very hearing impaired and difficult to communicate with by phone. It is often important that I get a message to her that I am sure she will understand; sending it by mail becomes of utmost importance because at her age she does not have email. Thank you for your consideration.  
Celeste Elwood

Please continue to deliver mail daily 6 days a week. Next day delivery is important to me.

There are still some folks who do not email and the post office is their connection to the "outside" world. Let's not make it an ineffective service that only delivers "junk mail".

Why is the government making so many different laws and they do not have to follow them, is this not the land of the free, USA, they are nothing but rat's hiding behind sheep's clothing

"Postal Service needs to keep 6 day delivery and Congress needs to know this is an ESSENTIAL part of everyday life and livelihood of many rural people and part of backbone of our Country."

We are 82 and 83 years old and cannot travel in the winter to drive any distance to pick up our mail. We need to have our rural delivery.

I would encourage the postal service to be pro-active in solving their financial problem while bettering their service. Cutting delivery, it would seem to me, is going to further deteriorate the postal system.

Please continue the service that we have now in place.

Being a former mail carrier, and my parents before me, I KNOW how vital mail delivery is!!! It is like a day WITH sunshine!!!!!!!

We need mail deliver here in our community of Tripp, SD and for the whole state of South Dakota. We need to keep the processing centers open for our service of mail to survive.

I have been having trouble the last few weeks getting my daily Aberdeen paper delivered. I keep missing a few days, and then I will eventually get caught up. Then they are talking of cutting down on delivery days? We may as well go back to the pony express. Couldn't be any slower.

We highly value daily mail service. If Congress would cut the seemingly endless list of pork projects that they should never be funding in the first place, they would be much more able to help keep our postal service afloat.

Why it is whenever you need something, the government takes it away, but still increases the postage, but that is our wonderful Gov.

We need the mail to communicate. The rural areas have no way of receiving timely items if this mail goes away. How will people receive medicine if they don't have any transportation? How would elderly receive their prescriptions, bills? We assume that all people have transportation to receive needed items. We all think that everyone has access to e-mail too and they don't (for example, the elderly can't complete this survey as the world assumes they have e-mail access)! On-line petition is nice but paper copy is still needed.

A dependable, timely delivery mail system should be a product of our society, something we cannot do individually but jointly, for the benefit of all. Its value is beyond measure. Expecting it to be "profitable" is as unrealistic as asking Congress to prove its worth!

Saturday mail delivery is essential for many people in business and for those living in rural areas.

It is very important to have timely, 6 day mail delivery. People that live in the rural areas depend on the mail every day of the week except Sunday. Please continue our 6 day service.

If it would keep the price of postage cost/stamps from being increased and not cutting back on other services throughout the weekdays, I would not miss the Saturday service! The window is only open for half of the day as it is now, so it would not be a real loss. If it means my mail on the following Monday would be delayed and downsizing of the personnel that will no longer need to be onsite for that Saturday delivery then I say just keep it the way it is!

I like to receive my newspaper 6 days a week. I also like to receive our medications when we need them which may come 6 days a week.

I like to read my newspaper 6 days a week.

U.S. postal service has been one of the most important services, in this country and beyond, forever. Let us keep this service for the 6 days a week that we have grown used to. There are many other ways that our country's money is being spent, that could be cut back or eliminated, that's not near as important as our mail service. Cutting back on mail delivery, shouldn't happen.

Six Day Mail Delivery has always been important for everyone, from small business to individual use.

This is outrageous, they want to close more post offices, yet services have diminished to nothing better than the pony express. They want more money for postage and they don't consider what happens to businesses.

We have a business, and we need our mail delivered six days a week. Thank You.

The mail we get from SD is coming later than normal once in a while currently - this causes problems for us to run our rural business. We depend on the postal service for parts and other business materials. It becomes even more of a hardship for us when there is a holiday where there is no Monday mail. If Saturday deliver is to stop, and there is a holiday on Friday or Monday, we will be without business mail for several days - this can create all sorts of problems for our rural business.

Require the post office to do its job...and keep news in the hands of the people.

Keeps the mail coming!!

We need our mail delivered safely, with only one postmaster handling it, and on time. Quit picking on the small rural post offices. You have done it for years and it still hasn't helped your income. Perhaps you should look elsewhere for the problem. Many rural ranchers, etc have not or do not have access to computers, have to pay their telephone, etc. bills on time, do not trust paying bills through internet (come on, have you guys heard of the dangers of putting your cards out there? You didn't think of all the Americans who get welfare checks so they can pay their bills, many have no cars so they cannot travel to a bigger post office! You are going to have to hire people to distribute this mail and have bigger post offices to accommodate this- come on you have bailed out other companies, why not the post office. I feel this is a total cop-out. Maybe your executives and their aides are making too much money? I went to several meetings about rural post offices and stated my info., only to realize the Executive was not listening, he couldn't have cared less about the problems it will cause a lot of people; just feathering his own nest. What happened to patriotism and fairness to all? I could go on forever but do you already have your mind made up? Your mail should be private, when I worked in the post office, you almost took an oath that you viewed everyone's mail as almost sacred and private!!!!

If Saturday deliveries are dropped, it would be terrible for rural Americans. We then would not get a newspaper from Friday until Monday. We would certainly drop our newspaper subscription, and get it online or elsewhere instead. The poorer your service becomes, the less it will be used. You are cutting your own throats by cutting service. When you charge more, for less service we will all find alternative ways to do business. This, as every other government run service, has been allowed to balloon to a system that is blowing way too much money, and then can't figure out why it doesn't work. Unless all of

the US government can figure out how to "live within their means" as all citizens must do, this country is headed for a total meltdown.

I support delivering the mail six days a week.

Please continue Saturday delivery.

Dakota Central is a vital hub for mail delivery in the upper Midwest. Shutting it down would be very detrimental to the region. Slower mail delivery is not the answer.

It appears that you will be cutting back on services, but not the cost of retirement pensions and health benefits. Why would you make the citizen/customer suffer for your irresponsible management of postal service employee benefits? We, the customer/citizen, have played for numerous postage increases, etc. It is time that you cut and take control of postal employee cost. Do this, and then let us discuss cutting services.

I placed an order Mon., 2/20 from Rutland, VT and received it today, Fri., 2/24 via UPS to Eagle Butte, SD. I ordered medicine Fri., 2/24 from Wal-Mart in Rapid City, SD, at the time they told me it wouldn't be sent out until Mon., 2/20. However, that was a holiday. I received it yesterday, Thur., 2/23. Rapid City is 176 miles. My father ordered medicine from Wal-Mart in Pierre, SD on 2/15. It was sent out possibly Tues., 2/21 and received Thur., 2/23. Pierre is 90 miles. Thank you for my listening to my concerns!

Cutting Saturday delivery is not going to reduce the Postal Service's bottom line, but it will reduce the bottom line for many a business.

It is very important to always be in touch & see things in writing are the best way. Cut some of the unnecessary ads & maybe lower some wages .

In our rural areas, timely mailing is of great importance to us. I oppose the closing of any of our post offices and want Saturday mail delivery to continue without interruption. Thank you.

Congress needs to take the time they have asked for to make the reforms that are necessary. Closings were postponed so they could make changes in the mandates to the USPS, so why haven't they done their job. Now I hear about closings again as if Congress didn't do anything. This is very upsetting.

If congress does not listen to its citizens and overwhelmingly pass the reform bill, they will lose my trust in their ability to do anything that really matters. Timely mail delivery is crucial for small businesses in rural communities, such as mine. We are being forced into lower standards for conducting business. We are going backwards.

Our mail is our "Life Blood" in rural South Dakota. Seniors, younger citizens, and businesses rely on it daily just to survive. By changing our mail processing facility, the Postal Service is already delaying our mail delivery by a day. These delays orders for our businesses, it makes our prescriptions one, and

sometimes more, days later than before and we receive Tuesday's newspaper on Thursday or later. This situation is not conducive to a healthy, informed public.

Living in the country should not be a detriment to our mail service. We look forward to our timely mail service. Thank you!