

Members of the House Political Subdivisions Committee,

I would like to express our support to HCR 3006.

My name is Travis Bruner, and together with my family we operate Bruner Angus Ranch, which is a fourth-generation family farm and ranch near Drake. We have seen in numerous ways over the past several years, how the US Postal Service continues to underserve and underperform. We have had pieces of personal mail returned after more than 6 months of being in circulation. We've had payments for bills mailed across town, never received.

We've heard many examples from friends as well, a recent one where they received a bill with a date of 12/27/24, due date 1/18/25, but the postmark date was 01/21/25. By the time they received it, they already had late charges. Of course, many businesses these days are understanding of the terrible mail service and forgive the late charges, but these added phone calls and interactions with customers due to the lack of service by the USPS is repeatedly costing local businesses time and money as well.

Through our retail beef business, we had packages of frozen beef mailed out using 2-day shipping, that weren't delivered for over a week, to no care at the end of the USPS when called about it; no answer, no refund, a simple "well it says 2-day but it could take up to 30". A loss for us again.

The biggest blow we took was last year for our annual production sale. We mail out a catalog to customers, over 1300 on the mailing list. The catalog is the number one marketing tool used to showcase our sale and offering to potential cattle buyers. We always do due diligence that we have the catalog printed and dropped at the post office in a great amount of time to arrive at all mailboxes for customers to have in hand prior to the sale. Last year, we estimate only about 30% of our mailing list had received the catalog by sale date. We received messages over a month after the sale from some who had just received it. The printing and postage of this catalog is one of the biggest expenses to putting on a sale, and the primary sales tool to get buyers interested. We can't help but wonder "what if all our customers would have gotten their catalog" how our sale might have gone. How many of our customers forgot about the sale because they didn't have the catalog? And of course, the cost that we are out to again, no care of the USPS.

This has got to change. It's affecting our bottom dollar as a family farm and ranch, its affecting small, local businesses. Our confidence in the USPS is little to none. We look for other options and choose them when we can.

We strongly support HCR 3006 and encourage you to cast a Do Pass vote from this committee.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Travis Bruner

Drake, District 6