

- Yesterday, the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) issued its advisory opinion, which was neither a specific “Agree” nor “Disagree” statement, to Congress, the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) and the U.S. public on the USPS’s request to drop Saturday service. The opinion provides advice and additional information gleaned from the USPS and those in the mailing community, including the GCA, to Congress as it now considers a decision in the matter.
- The GCA is pleased that the PRC has advised the Congress, which ultimately must decide the issue, to carefully weigh several issues in their consideration of the USPS’s request:
  - USPS significantly underestimated revenue loss from the change, and overestimated cost savings, and full savings would not be realized for at least three years;
  - 25% of First Class and Priority Mail would be delayed by two days; and,
  - Impact on service to non-contiguous, remote and rural areas from this change was not properly evaluated by the USPS.
- The GCA recognizes that the USPS must make fundamental changes in its business in the face of its financial losses and declining volumes, but we continue to believe there are better courses of action for the USPS to take to achieve more meaningful savings than reducing vital service to all Americans, including right-sizing its labor and infrastructure to lower volumes and restoring overpayments made into Federal retirement programs. We know that six-day service is of significant importance to our industry and are convinced that five-day service will only prompt more households to leave the mail in favor of electronic alternatives. The continuation of six-day service is also essential for the large minority of Americans who do not have internet service and count on mail delivery for bills, bill payment, prescription drugs, etc.
- The GCA and its member companies look forward to working with the Congress and the service towards these type of fundamental reforms that will put the USPS on a long-term, fiscally responsible path to offer universal, six-day service at reasonable rates.

George White  
Chair, Postal Affairs Committee