

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 26, 2026

David P. Steiner
Postmaster General
U.S. Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW, Room 10804
Washington, DC 20260

Postmaster General Steiner:

I write to express serious concern about the United States Postal Service's (USPS) proposal to impose a temporary "fuel surcharge" because of rising gas prices. This surcharge would directly shift the cost of the Administration's reckless war in Iran on to Americans, particularly seniors, small businesses, and rural communities that rely on USPS. I urge you and the Postal Regulatory Commission to reject this surcharge before it can be implemented and prevent unnecessary harm to families across New Mexico and America.

This week, USPS announced a fuel surcharge, an eight percent fee on certain packages and Priority Mail deliveries to cover rising fuel and transportation costs. This fee would squeeze household budgets and cut into the profit margins of small businesses, who are already facing rising gas prices and costs because of the Administration's war.

For decades, USPS has been the most affordable and reliable mail delivery option for Americans. Seniors, rural residents, veterans, and working families disproportionately depend on the USPS for essential functions like paying bills, receiving medications, filing taxes, and accessing critical government benefits. This fuel surcharge is the latest example of how this Administration and USPS's mismanagement threatens to leave these Americans and rural communities without essential, affordable services.

Your decision to raise costs on American families is harmful and will continue to make their budgets even tighter. No one is denying that fuel costs have gone up because of the Administration's decision to go to war in Iran, but passing those costs directly onto American families, many of whom are already paying more at the pump and for everyday goods, is unacceptable. New Mexicans should not be asked to bear the burden of higher costs because this Administration failed to plan for the foreseeable impact this war would have on energy prices.

You of all people know that the USPS mission is to provide reliable, affordable, and universal mail and package delivery services to all Americans. This proposal fails that mission and would have far-reaching and lasting impacts on millions of Americans who depend on the USPS for critical, time-sensitive mail. I strongly urge you to reject this policy.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gabe Vasquez". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.

Gabe Vasquez
Member of Congress