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May 27, 2014

The Honorable Patrick R. Donahoe
Postmaster General and Chief Executive Officer
United States Post Office
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, DC 20260-3500

Dear Mr. Postmaster General:

On behalf of the 3 million members of the National Education Association (NEA), I am writing to express NEA's strong opposition to the U. S. Postal Service's decision to operate postal counters in Staples stores. Your efforts to replace skilled U.S. Postal Service employees with untrained workers will jeopardize mail service, while putting the jobs of thousands of Postal Service employees at risk.

NEA has members who live and work in every locality in this country, and we are acutely aware of the impact that these kinds of actions could have on our members when local services are compromised – particularly those who live in rural areas. Our members recognize that the nation's post offices are crucial to the orderly function of every entity in the country and they have long trusted and relied on the quality, secure service that they receive when they go to the post office.

NEA does not support – and never will – the outsourcing of essential public services to untrained workers in private companies with lower standards. If allowed to continue, these efforts would significantly undermine the security and integrity of the country's entire mail collection and delivery process.

Our members stand united in unequivocal support of the nation's 500,000 postal workers and the public service they provide to all Americans every day. We ask that you take immediate action to reverse your decision to offer postal services through a private company that is not accountable to taxpayers.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis Van Roekel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dennis Van Roekel
President