May 11, 2021

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney
Chairwoman
House Committee on Oversight and Reform
2308 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable James Comer
Ranking Member
House Committee on Oversight and Reform
2410 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Maloney and Ranking Member Comer:

On behalf of Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America (CADCA) and the over 5,000 community coalitions it represents, I write today in opposition to the United States Postal Service (USPS) Shipping Equity Act, which we understand Congresswoman Speier plans to offer as an amendment during Thursday’s markup in the House Committee on Oversight and Reform. Given that underage drinking is the number one substance use issue facing American youth, this legislation would only exacerbate the problem.

Age verification and ID checks are critical tools in preventing underage access to alcohol. The USPS would be forced to invest in the technology to follow age verification policies, placing an additional burden on an agency already mired in fiscal and logistical challenges. Furthermore, USPS workers may ignore or improperly enforce age verification policies or deliver alcohol to the wrong address. This will only provide underage Americans with an easier way to purchase and consume alcohol, threatening to reverse the progress the public health field has made in reducing rates of underage drinking.

As Congress is attempting to prevent fentanyl from being shipped through the mail, it makes no sense to open the USPS to alcohol shipping. If the USPS Shipping Equity Act is enacted, the public health consequences will be dire and young Americans will be put at additional risk from alcohol. I urge you to oppose this legislation.

Sincerely,

Barrye L. Price, Ph.D.
Major General, U.S. Army, Retired
President and CEO

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