



## **Rep. Chris Smith Endorsed By New Jersey State Postal Workers Union**

*Colts Neck*---Rep. Chris Smith today welcomed the endorsement of the New Jersey State Postal Workers Union—as well as the endorsement from the Trenton Metro Area Local affiliate, which represents postal workers, clerks, maintenance, and motor vehicle employees out of Hamilton and the surrounding area.

“New Jersey’s postal workers are proud to endorse our friend, the hardworking Congressman Chris Smith for re-election,” NJ State Postal Workers Union President and Trenton Metro Area Local President Bill Lewis said. “For many years—especially this year with the COVID-19 crisis—Rep. Smith has been a consistent champion for postal workers, advocating for a safer and better work environment. Chris has been tenacious, fighting for PPE for our postal workers, supporting essential emergency relief and maintaining operational equipment so that our men and women on the frontlines can continue to serve our customers safely and effectively,” Lewis added.

**“I am grateful to the courageous and dedicated men and women who have remained on the job at great risk making sure our mail gets delivered – including medicine, food supplies, checks, and other important items as we continue to fight COVID-19,”** said Rep. Smith. **“Postal workers provide an essential service to New Jersey residents and their work remains crucial to our nation’s commercial activity and is especially important as we enter a nearly all vote-by-mail election,”** he said.

Smith has a long and comprehensive record of supporting both postal customers and workers. Most recently he voted for legislation to provide the United States Postal Service (USPS) with \$25 billion in emergency funds and to restore postal operations – including timely mail delivery – to prevent changes that would curtail its services for customers.

This summer when constituents and postal workers reached out to Rep. Smith regarding significant mail delivery problems, Smith conducted a site visit and met with postal officials at the John K. Rafferty processing and distribution center in Hamilton, which processes nearly all of the mail for much of central New Jersey including Mercer, Monmouth, and Ocean counties of the Fourth Congressional District. Smith underscored the importance of keeping postal operations and the workforce at pre-COVID-19 levels to address current delays and keep pace with an expected return to a robust economy.

Smith was critical in securing the safe reopening of the same processing and distribution center following the deadly anthrax attacks in 2001. Throughout his tenure, Rep. Smith has opposed the privatization of the USPS and has supported the continuation of its six-day mail service.

Date: September 18, 2020

Contact: Michael Finan, 732-462-7600