

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 3, 2020

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Chairman
Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Gary Peters
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Johnson and Ranking Member Peters:

We are writing to express our support for H.R. 5972, the *Mary Ann Shadd Cary Post Office Dedication Act*, introduced on February 26, 2020 by Rep. Lisa Blunt Rochester (DE-AL). This legislation would designate the United States Postal Service facility located at 500 Delaware Avenue, Suite 1, in Wilmington, Delaware as the “Mary Ann Shadd Cary Post Office.”

Mary Ann Shadd Cary was born in Wilmington, Delaware on October 9, 1823. Shadd Cary went on to become the first African American woman to be a newspaper editor and publisher in North America. Among her many accomplishments, she was a teacher, an active abolitionist and suffragist and one of the first African American women to earn a law degree. After earning her degree from the Howard University Law School, Shadd Cary continued her role as an activist in Washington, D.C., where she testified in front of the U.S. House Judiciary Committee, advocating equality for women and the African American community.

It is important that Mary Ann Shadd Cary is honored in the town of her birth, Wilmington, Delaware, for the incredible work she did to advance the rights of all people. She was a trailblazer who made an impact everywhere she went. We are proud to offer our support of H.R. 5972 and would appreciate the Committee’s consideration of this legislation. Please do not hesitate to reach out to our staff with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



THOMAS R. CARPER
United States Senator



CHRISTOPHER A. COONS
United States Senator