

February 13, 2013

Dear Member of Congress:

On behalf of the over 200,000 managers and supervisors in the federal government whose interests are represented by the Federal Managers Association (FMA), I am writing to express deep concern regarding the upcoming across-the-board cuts through the process of sequestration that are set to take effect on March 1, 2013. These cuts would do nothing but impede departments and agencies' ability to fulfill congressionally mandated mission and goals.

With sequestration looming only two weeks away, departments and agencies are already recommending leaders develop furlough plans for permanent employees and terminate temporary workers, and not renew contracts if these cuts goes into effect. This means the critical services provided by these federal employees will fail to meet the standard the American public deserves. Support for our men and women in the military will be hindered, retirees will not receive their Social Security checks on time, taxpayers will see a delay on their refund checks, and our veterans will wait longer for medical attention. Make no mistake, the impact of sequestration will be calamitous.

The purpose of sequestration was to pose such a great threat to the American economy that it would motivate all elected officials to set aside their differences and make tough choices together on behalf of the greater good for the country. Federal employees and the American public deserve a solution to this problem that includes forethought and implements sustainable solutions to restore the country's financial standing. America cannot afford a second-class government, especially during these tough economic times. As the sequestration deadline approaches, I urge you to recognize the invaluable work performed by civil servants and the damaging effects passage of further pay, pension and human capital cuts would entail.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact FMA's Director of Government Affairs Greg Stanford at gstanford@fedmanagers.org or 703-683-8700. Thank you for your time and consideration of our views.



Patricia J. Niehaus
National President