

June 22, 2015

The Honorable Joni Ernst
111 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Ernst:

On behalf of managers and supervisors currently serving our nation in the federal government and whose interests are represented by the Federal Managers Association (FMA), we fully extend support for S. 1550, the Program Management Improvement Accountability Act. During the May 20 hearing for Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management, FMA testified to the need for better management throughout the federal government. In order to create efficient and effective federal departments and agencies, managers should be given needed tools to ensure programs and projects are completed on time and on budget as the American public has greater demands for services from the federal government.

As you recall, in FMA's testimony, we called for the need to recognize federal employees' management abilities early in their career in order to develop them for management roles. FMA finds that by preparing managers early on, they are better capable to be leaders. FMA applauds the language in your bill calling for career paths for program managers. FMA fully supports your call for creating a program management improvement level. FMA members have noted the difficulties of recruiting and retaining federal employees into management roles, and this position will greatly help in these efforts. We are also glad to see a call for the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to develop annual reviews. By examining and analyzing programs, OMB will be able to gauge not only the efficiency of federal programs.

As federal agencies and departments continue to face diminished funding with increased demand, it is imperative that proper program management that encourages not only efficiency and effectiveness, but also sustainable management that promote these ideals. By properly managing federal programs, we can ensure the public's needs are met while also meeting fiscal demands. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact FMA's Government Affairs Director Greg Stanford at gstanford@fedmanagers.org or (703) 683-8700.

Sincerely,



Patricia J. Niehaus
National President

Cc: Members of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee