

September 23, 2015

The Honorable Jon Tester  
311 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Tester:

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), I would like to thank you for your support and dedication to the Competitive Service Act, S. 1580. Because of your efforts, the Senate unanimously passed this bill without contention. This legislation would provide agencies with access to highly qualified candidates who went through a rigorous competitive assessment, and would allow for much greater efficiency in the hiring process. As I have said before, at a time when the federal government is struggling to improve recruitment and retention, this tool would streamline the hiring process and remove a barrier for talented men and women.

In 2010, then-OPM Director John Berry called on Congress to allow agencies to share their lists of best qualified talent as part of a broader piece of legislation aimed at reforming the federal hiring process. S. 1580 allows agencies to review and select job candidates from another agency's best qualified list—a list of applicants who have already undergone a competitive assessment process and are certified as eligible for selection by an agency selecting official.

Thank you for your continued support to the men and women in the federal workforce. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact FMA's Government Affairs Director Greg Stanford at [gstanford@fedmanagers.org](mailto:gstanford@fedmanagers.org) or (703) 683-8700.

Sincerely,



Patricia J. Niehaus  
National President