

December 20, 2012

Dear Representative,

On behalf of the interests of over 200,000 managers and supervisors in the federal government represented by the Federal Managers Association (FMA), I am writing to urge you to oppose H.R. 6684, the Spending Reduction Act. While we understand difficult decisions need to be made to address the fiscal cliff, the bill contains provisions that would raise federal employees' pension contributions, effectively reducing take home pay of hard working civil servants. Federal workers provide invaluable services to our country, yet we seemingly face constant attacks on our livelihoods.

H.R. 6684 increases employee contributions for federal workers enrolled in both the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) and the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS). CSRS and FERS employees will contribute five percent more to their retirement plans over five years, starting in 2013. FERS employees, who currently contribute 0.8 percent, and CSRS employees, who currently contribute seven percent, will see an increase of 1.5 percent in 2013, 0.5 percent in 2014, and one percent in 2015, 2016, and 2017.

As a result of the ongoing federal pay freeze, which has been extended past its intended end point, in addition to increased new-hire pension contributions, federal workers have already made a \$103 billion contribution to curtail government spending. We have already made enormous sacrifices toward deficit reduction. H.R. 6684 will only hurt the recruitment and retention rates of agencies charged with providing necessary services to the American public. I respectfully urge you to vote against this legislation. Thank you for your time and consideration of our views. 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