

January 17, 2013

Dear Representative:

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 strong opposition to H.R. 273 as it calls for an extension of the federal pay freeze through December 2013. It is disappointing that one of the first acts of the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress would be a vote against the hard working men and women of the federal government – men and women who provide vital services to their fellow Americans on a daily basis.

H.R. 273 would negate the President's Executive Order issued on December 27, 2012, giving federal workers a modest pay raise of 0.5 percent. Federal employees have been under a pay freeze since 2011. Over the past two years, middle-class federal workers accepted this financial sacrifice in order to right our nation's fiscal ship, all while we have seen rising health care costs, increases in general living expenses, and supporting family members who are under- or unemployed. Federal managers and employees have already made a \$103 billion contribution to resolving the nation's debt, far more than any other group.

Federal managers and employees provide invaluable services to our country. We are responsible for securing our national borders, collecting taxes and revenues, caring for veterans and the elderly, and assisting our troops at home and abroad. Extending the federal pay freeze will negatively affect agencies' recruitment and retention of much needed talent, making it more difficult to provide crucial assistance to a growing number of Americans. H.R. 273 puts further strain on federal employees who are struggling to do more with less, in both our personal and professional lives.

I urge you to vote against H.R. 273 or any piece of legislation that extends the federal pay freeze. Federal workers do not deserve to disproportionately shoulder the burden of the nation's economic problems. 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](mailto:gstanford@fedmanagers.org) or 703-683-8700.

Sincerely,



Patricia J. Niehaus  
National President