



September 8, 2023

Dear Member of Congress:

On behalf of the managers and supervisors in the federal government whose interests are represented by the Federal Managers Association (FMA), I am writing to respectfully urge you to keep the federal government funded and prevent a devastating shutdown. We are less than three weeks away from the beginning of Fiscal Year 2024, and no agency – including the Department of Defense – has been funded.

FMA members are dedicated patriots who tirelessly serve their communities, fulfilling congressionally-mandated missions and goals, while administering invaluable services to all Americans. Hundreds of thousands of federal employees – who are taxpayers like their fellow citizens – do not know if they will be told to stay home and not get paid for the foreseeable future. This has tangible, negative effects on the employees, their families, and every American who relies on the services they provide.

We are aware that Congressional leaders are seeking a continuing resolution (CR) to allow for more time to finalize FY24 funding. We at FMA grudgingly support a CR in lieu of a shutdown. However, if we, as federal workers, never completed our work on time and had to continually ask for a four-to-six-week extension, we would probably be seeking employment elsewhere. By not appropriating funds, and working under a CR every year, this causes extra costs to agencies having to work under the previous year's budget, and does not allow agencies proper planning opportunities, including being able to buy equipment and supplies in bulk to save money.

Working under a CR also adds stress to federal workers. In addition to performing our regular duties, as each deadline approaches, we have to create furlough lists and contingency plans in case we have a government shutdown, even if that shutdown is ultimately averted. This results in lost resources and man hours we can never recover, and billions of wasted taxpayer dollars. There is no excuse for such wastefulness. We urge you to come together and provide full FY24 appropriations for the good of the country.

Thank you for your consideration of our very real concerns. Should you have any questions, please contact FMA's Director of Government Affairs, Greg Stanford, at gstanford@fedmanagers.org.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,

Craig Carter
National President