

January 19, 2018

Dear U.S. Senator:

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.

Our members are dedicated patriots who tirelessly serve their communities, fulfilling congressionally-mandated missions and goals, while administering invaluable services to all Americans. A shutdown would dangerously set back the recovery of the nation's struggling economy. Hundreds of thousands of federal employees – who are taxpayers like everyone else – do not know if they will be told to stay home and not get paid starting on Monday.

In a shutdown, federal employees who should be fixing airplanes and ships that protect our national security, processing tax returns and Social Security payments, caring for our veterans, protecting our food supply, and countless other services, will instead be sitting at home. This has tangible, negative effects on the employees, their families, and every American who relies on the services they provide.

Further, FMA reminds Congress that delaying appropriations and flirting with government shutdowns results in egregious costs and waste, even if a shutdown is averted. It takes significant time and resources for agencies to prepare for a potential shutdown, when they should be fulfilling agency missions.

Finally, in the event that Congress does not pass approve appropriations, resulting in a funding lapse, the Senate must ensure that services are provided to the public, and federal employees are paid for work performed or missed due to furlough.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our views. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact FMA's Director of Government Affairs, Greg Stanford, at gstanford@fedmanagers.org or at 703-683-8700, ext. 104.

Sincerely,



Renee M. Johnson
National President