April 25, 2012



The Honorable Darrell Issa Chairman, Oversight and Government Reform Committee 2157 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Elijah Cummings Ranking Member, Oversight and Government Reform Committee 2471 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Issa and Ranking Member Cummings,

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 urge you to oppose the committee's budget reconciliation legislation as it currently stands. By raising federal employees' pension contributions, the legislation results in a pay cut of five percent. Federal workers provide invaluable services to our country, yet we are constantly facing attacks on our livelihoods.

This legislation unjustly calls for a 625 percent increase to federal employee contributions to the Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) and Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) employees will see an increase of 71 percent. In addition, the legislation requires federal employees hired after January 1, 2013, to cover half of the cost of their pensions and those who voluntarily retire before the age of 62 would no longer have the FERS Social Security Supplement.

As a result of the current two-year pay freeze, civil servants have already made a \$60 billion financial contribution in an effort to offset government spending. This legislation 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 the OGR Budget Reconciliation legislation. Thank you for your time and consideration of our views. Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact FMA's Government Affairs Assistant Katie Maddocks at <u>kmaddocks@fedmanagers.org</u> or 703-683-8700.

Sincerely,

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Patricia J. Niehaus National President