

September 22, 2015

Dear U.S. Senators and Representatives:

On behalf of the managers and supervisors throughout 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 that is merely days away.

Members of the federal workforce are dedicated patriots who tirelessly serve their communities, fulfilling congressionally-mandated missions and goals and administering invaluable services to all Americans. Hundreds of thousands of federal employees – who are taxpayers like everyone else – are anxiously awaiting notification if they will be forced off of their jobs next week. This has tangible negative effects on them, their families, and every American who relies on the services they provide. A government shutdown will also have a devastating impact on the private sector and the national economy. When the government shut down for sixteen days in October 2013, the economy lost \$24 billion and the GDP dropped, according to Standard & Poor's.

A government shutdown does not just impact federal workers. It delays much needed services to the public. The FAA will be unable to ensure air traffic safety; FDA inspectors will be unable protect the nation's food supplies; and, the country's beloved National Parks Service will close. Additionally, employees deemed essential will be forced to work without pay for an uncertain amount of time. For example, law enforcement officers within Immigration and Customs Enforcement will fulfill missions and goals, putting their own lives at risk while they protect the country's borders.

A government shutdown is unnecessary and damaging to all Americans. In order to ensure the safety of the country, I call upon you to put aside partisan differences and develop an essential spending plan for fiscal year 2016. 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