

December 1, 2021

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 urge you to keep the federal government funded and prevent a devastating shutdown. Shutdowns in recent years have been bad, but a shutdown amidst a global pandemic and weeks away from the holidays would be gross negligence. The idea of punishing all Americans by restricting the critical services the government provides and holding appropriations hostage is shameful.

Our 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 for the foreseeable future. This has tangible, negative effects on the employees, their families, and every American who relies on the services they provide. The reality is even a continuing resolution is not much better than a lapse in appropriations, and winds up costing Americans untold billions of dollars in lost productivity and the inability to adequately plan for the year.

FMA once again 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. We are profoundly frustrated to be in a position where a continuing resolution is the least unacceptable option, and urge Congress to do the most basic element of its job as laid out in Article 1, Section 8, of the Constitution.

Thank you for your consideration of our 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