



# NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Affiliated with the International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers, AFL-CIO

July 18, 2013

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE) and the 50,000 Department of Defense (DoD) workers we represent throughout the United States and abroad, **I am writing to urge your support for the Cole-Kilmer Working Capital Funds amendment being offered to the Department of Defense Appropriations Act (HR 2397)**. This bipartisan amendment is being offered by Reps. Tom Cole (OK) and Derek Kilmer (WA). Additional sponsors include Kevin McCarthy (CA), Rob Bishop (UT), Walter Jones (NC), Dave Loebsack (IA), Betty McCollum (MN), and Austin Scott (GA).

This amendment would exempt employees funded through Defense Working Capital Funds (DWCF) from furloughs in fiscal year 2014 (FY14). DWCF employees are paid through reimbursements for the services they provide, so there are no direct savings in appropriated dollars to be rendered from furloughing these dedicated Defense workers. In fact, Congressional Budget Office (CBO) has indicated that this amendment does not score.

Make no mistake: we believe Congress should take decisive action to eliminate *all* furloughs at DoD in FY14. Furloughs are simply bad policy and any savings derived from them are outweighed by the adverse effects they have on the Department and our national security. The furloughs DoD will sustain in fiscal year 2013 will without question have adverse effects on our nation's military mission, including military readiness; furloughs at DoD again in FY14 would only weaken our military strength further. That being said, there should be absolutely no occasion when furloughing DWCF employees is considered acceptable. Doing so does not save the American taxpayers a single nickel. Furloughing these employees simply inflicts unnecessary pain on Defense workers and the communities in which they live.

Again, I strongly urge you to vote 'YES' on the Cole-Kilmer Working Capital Funds amendment being offered during this week's consideration the Department of Defense Appropriations Act (HR 2397).

If you have any questions, please contact NFFE Legislative Director Randy Erwin at (202) 216-4451 or [rerwin@nffe.org](mailto:rerwin@nffe.org).

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

William R. Dougan  
National President