



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

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

June 21, 2017

U.S. House Committee on the Budget
B-234 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Black, Ranking Member Yarmuth and members of the House Budget Committee:

On behalf of the 110,000 federal employees represented by the National Federation of Federal Employees, we strongly urge you to reject any further budget cuts aimed at the compensation of current and former employees of the federal government in the fiscal year 2018 budget resolution. The resolution should not punish the public servants who have dedicated their lives to serve our nation.

Specifically, we urge you to exclude reconciliation instructions to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in any FY18 budget resolution. Such instructions would set the stage for substantial health and retirement benefit cuts for federal and postal employees and retirees.

The federal workforce has already contributed \$182 billion towards deficit reduction since 2011 through a three-year pay freeze, reduced pay increases, unpaid furlough days due to sequestration, and two increases in retirement contributions for new hires, without any additional benefit. These middle-class workers give their all to this nation every day, and were the first to contribute when the nation was facing severe economic challenges. They should not be forced to sacrifice even more.

Americans respect the work that federal employees carry out to keep us safe and provide crucial services: taking criminals off our streets and keeping them behind bars; supplying and preparing our military; caring for veterans; providing the intelligence and human resources to thwart terrorism; ensuring the safety of the food we eat; protecting our borders and our airways; providing Social Security and Medicare benefits; delivering and processing our mail; and much, much more.

The National Federation of Federal Employees urges you to respect their work as well, and reject any budget resolution that would target the earned pay and benefits of the federal employees and retirees who serve – or have served – our country.

Sincerely,

Randy Erwin
National President