

March 14, 2013

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Senator Reid, Senator McConnell, Speaker Boehner, and Representative Pelosi:

The undersigned organizations are writing to ask you to repeal across-the-board budget cuts required by the Budget Control Act of 2011, called "sequestration."

According to the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), these cuts will cost 750,000 jobs this year and reduce economic growth by 0.6%. Similarly, sequestration cuts over the next decade will cost many more jobs and reduce economic growth even further.

There is a simple solution to make this problem go away: repeal the sequester provision of the Budget Control Act of 2011. It is that simple. Congress created the sequester and Congress can repeal it.

Sequestration should be repealed, not replaced. Further fiscal austerity before the United States returns to full employment would only weaken the economy and cost jobs.

It is time to put these manufactured fiscal crises behind us and focus instead on the urgent business of putting America back to work, raising wages, and reducing inequality, which are the most important economic challenges facing America.

We urge you to act promptly to repeal sequestration.

Sincerely,

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

9 to 5
AFL-CIO
AFSCME
Afterschool Alliance
Alliance for a Just Society
Alliance for Retired Americans
American Federation of Government Employees,
AFL-CIO
The American Federation of School Administrators
(AFSA), AFL-CIO
American Federation of Teachers
American Friends Service Committee
Association of Programs for Rural Independent
Living
Campaign for America's Future

Campaign for Community Change
Carpe Diem Health
Center for Effective Government
Children's Advocacy Institute
Coalition of Labor Union Women
Coalition on Human Needs
The Communications Workers of America
Community Action Partnership
Courage Campaign
Democratic Socialists of America (DSA)
Demos
Department for Professional Employees, AFL-CIO
Earthjustice
Economic Policy Institute
The Education Trust

Every Child Matters Education Fund
Food & Water Watch
Gamaliel
Green For All
Health Care for America Now
Healthy Teen Network
Housing Works
International Association of Machinists &
Aerospace Workers
International Brotherhood of Boilermakers
International Union, UAW
Marine Engineers' Beneficial Association
Metal Trades Department, AFL-CIO
National Association of Letter Carriers
National Association of Social Workers
National Center for Transgender Equality
National Community Tax Coalition
National Council for Occupational Safety and
Health
National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW)
The National Council on Independent Living
National Education Association
National Employment Law Project
National Fair Housing Alliance
National Federation of Federal Employees
National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Action Fund
National Health Care for the Homeless Council
National Human Services Assembly
National Immigrant Solidarity Network
National Immigration Law Center
National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty

National Low Income Housing Coalition
National Organization for Women
National People's Action
National Priorities Project
Natural Resources Defense Council
Partnership for Working Families
Peace Action
Professional Aviation Safety Specialists
Progressive Congress
Progressive Democrats of America (PDA)
Progressive States Network
Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities Coalition
Resources for Human Development
RESULTS
Service Employees International Union
Social Security Works
Southeast Asia Resource Action Center
Strengthen Social Security Coalition
Summit Health Institute for Research and
Education, Inc.
Transportation Communications Union (TCU/IAM)
Transportation Equity Network
United for Peace and Justice
United Mine Workers of America
USAction
U.S. Labor Against the War (USLAW)
Veterans for Peace
Vote Mob
Wider Opportunities for Women
Working America