



The Honorable Pat Roberts
United States Senate
Washington, DC Office
109 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1605

Dear Senator Roberts,

I am writing you regarding the next round of Sequestration to take effect October 1, 2015. I am adamantly opposed to the reductions in Army manpower (Soldiers and civilians) that will directly affect Fort Leavenworth. If Congress does not rescind Sequestration or at least exempt the Department of Defense from the next round of Sequestration, it will have significantly detrimental consequences on the Bi-State region for both Kansas and Missouri.

Sequestration has served its purpose. With a massive federal deficit, it necessarily forced across-the-board budget cuts on almost the entire budget, to include traditionally protected programs. However, it has not succeeded in its ultimate objective of forcing leaders from all parties to the table to pass a responsible Federal Budget. Instead, Sequestration has become a tool that all parties to the budget debate can use to say, "Not my fault."

If Sequestration is allowed to continue in its current form, our National Defense Structure will suffer irreparable damage. Given the volatile global environment, with many dangerous actors challenging America's interests, we must be fully prepared to combat these threats. History is full of lessons learned from the lack of preparedness for military conflict. This is not the time to risk our nation's strategic defense, as a hedge against the near and long-term threats, for the sake of possible savings generated by sequestration.

I urge you to devote immediate attention and effort to finding a solution that will end Sequestration, get the nation's defense strategy back in balance, and avoid further harm to the readiness of the U.S. Armed Forces, especially the U.S. Army. Thank you for your continued stewardship of our bi-state region and our nation's defense.

Sincerely,

