

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 7, 2015

Mr. Kenneth Feinberg  
Special Master for Implementation  
The Treasury Department  
MPRA Office (Attn: Deva Kyle)  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Room 1224  
Washington, DC 20220

RE: TREAS-DO-2015-0009-0001

Dear Special Master Feinberg,

We write today on behalf of the thousands of retirees and the families we represent in strong opposition to the reduction in benefits proposed by the Board of Trustees of the Central States, Southeast and Southwest Areas Pension Plan (Central States Pension Plan) (CSPF), which has submitted an application to the Treasury Department to reduce benefits under the CSPF in accordance with the Multiemployer Pension Reform Act of 2014 (MPRA).

Simply put, America's workers are entitled to the pensions they've earned over a lifetime of hard work – and the big corporations that fall into financial trouble or even declare bankruptcy should not be permitted to take those problems and failures out on employee pensions, especially while executives secure golden parachutes.

The proposed cuts by Central States will affect about 270,000 people, many concentrated in the Upper Midwest, with a significant number of those retirees facing severe cuts of 50-70 percent – affecting not only individual workers and retirees, but their entire communities as well. We have serious concerns that government safety net programs will increasingly be the only option left for families who will face a drastic reduction in their purchasing power.

We do not believe placing an inordinate burden on middle-class workers and retirees is the only option for Central States. For these reasons and more, we urge the Treasury Department to deny this application and move forward with a more equitable solution.

Thank you for your consideration of our views on this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we may be of assistance.

Sincerely,



Richard M. Nolan  
Member of Congress



Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress



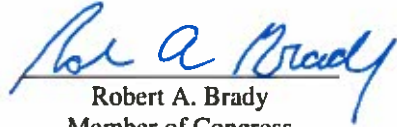
David Scott  
Member of Congress



Tim Ryan  
Member of Congress



Patrick Murphy  
Member of Congress



Robert A. Brady  
Member of Congress



Collin C. Peterson  
Member of Congress



Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress



André Carson  
Member of Congress



Daniel T. Kildee  
Member of Congress



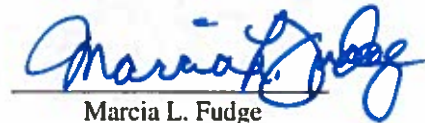
John A. Yarmuth  
Member of Congress



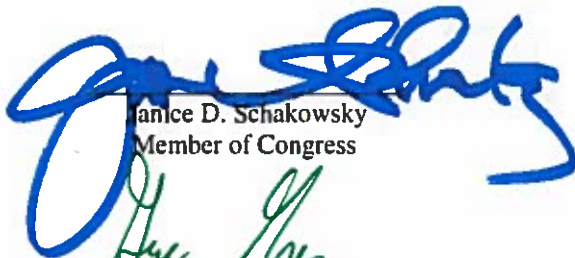
Cheri Bustos  
Member of Congress



Betsy McCollum  
Member of Congress



Marcia L. Fudge  
Member of Congress



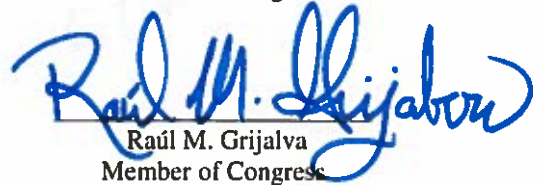
Danice D. Schakowsky  
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



Gene Green  
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva  
Member of Congress