



American Federation of Government Employees
Local 1709
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Press Release:
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

American Federation of Government Employees, (AFGE) Local 1709, is calling for all Federal employees to stand up and fight Washington D. C. on staff cuts that target rank and file employees. This despite hiring freezes, pay cuts, and reduction in retirement benefits while there have been no comparable cut backs for those in Washington D.C. This despite the sacrifice of \$60 billion from pay freezes for Federal Employee over the past two-years.

The DOD workforce is expected to be cut by 10% by fiscal 2015. Yet DOD contracts more than 10.5 million workers. The Project on Government Oversight (POGO) Report contends on average, contractors charge the government almost twice as much as the annual compensation of comparable federal employees. We as federal employees and taxpayers should be asking why DOD would use this controversial "Efficiency Initiative" that fails to take into consideration DOD's entire workforce that relies heavily on contracted workers. What make this even more appalling is the Contractors continue to bill taxpayers for nearly \$700,000 for some of the highest paid executives. Unlike federal employees there are no caps on contracted employee salaries.

These cuts have a detrimental impact on federal agencies ability to carry out their constitutional and statutory function to provide services to the American people. Specifically, DOD should not slash thousands of mission-critical jobs who support our war fighters with the intent of contracting this work under direct violation of federal law.

Our Senators and Congressmen need to hear from their constituents before they begin their debate. DOD should not continue to put budget cuts on the backs of the federal employees while ignoring the real issues. Federal workers did not create this deficit in Washington and should not be targeted for deep cuts while others go untouched.

Jerry Davies
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