

Letter From President To Congress About Pay Hikes For Federal Civilian Employees

By Administrator
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RALEIGH, (SGRToday.com) - This week President Obama asked Congress to raise the pay of federal civilian employees. In a letter to Congress, the president made his case.

The text of the letter, as released by the White House, is below.

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President):

I am transmitting an alternative plan for pay increases for civilian Federal employees covered by the General Schedule and certain other pay systems in January 2016.

Title 5, United States Code, authorizes me to implement alternative pay plans for pay increases for civilian Federal employees covered by the General Schedule and certain other pay systems if, because of "national emergency or serious economic conditions affecting the general welfare," I view the adjustments that would otherwise take effect as inappropriate.

Accordingly, I have determined that it is appropriate to exercise my statutory alternative plan authority under 5 U.S.C. 5303(b) and 5304a to set alternative January 2016 across-the-board and locality pay adjustments. Specifically, I have determined that for 2016, across-the-board pay increases will be 1.0 percent. Also, I will make a decision by November 30, 2015, regarding an alternative plan for locality payments under 5 U.S.C.

5304a

. The alternative plan for locality payments will be limited so that the total combined cost of the 1.0 percent across-the-board base pay increase and the varying locality pay increases will be 1.3 percent of basic payroll, consistent with the assumption in my 2016 Budget. These decisions will not materially affect our ability to attract and retain a well-qualified Federal workforce.

The adjustments described above shall take effect on the first applicable pay period beginning on or after January 1, 2016.

Sincerely,

BARACK OBAMA