

ADAM KINZINGER
16TH DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

DEPUTY REPUBLICAN WHIP

—
COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY & COMMERCE

—
COMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1602

□ 1221 LONGWORTH HOB
WASHINGTON D.C. 20515
(202) 225-3635
FAX: (202) 225-3521

□ 628 COLUMBUS ST., STE 507
OTTAWA, IL 61350
(815) 431-9271
FAX: (815) 431-9383

April 14, 2016

Mr. Kenneth Feinberg
Special Master for Implementation
U.S. Department of the Treasury
MPRA Office
1500 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Room 1224
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Special Master Feinberg:

I write today on behalf of my constituents who will be severely impacted if the Treasury Department chooses to approve the Central States, Southeast and Southwest Areas Pension Plan's (Central States Pension Plan) proposed benefit reductions. The proposal warrants not just a diligent review of the facts, but also a guarantee that all of the Central States' financial conditions have met the standards set out in law should you choose to approve the application. I would like you to keep in mind that well over 260,000 individuals, and their families, will be impacted by a reduction in benefits.

My constituents have raised numerous concerns regarding the ability to have their voice heard during this process, including the vote they are likely to take on whether or not to have their benefits reduced. As you move through the process of determining whether or not Central States is considered systemically important, I would urge you to remember that our country is founded on the principles of democracy. Taking away the right of these individuals to have a meaningful vote on the fate of the benefits they have earned throughout their careers is a choice that should only be taken in the most extreme of circumstances.

Additionally, it has been brought to my attention that disabled veterans do not fall under the plan's definition of disability. In making your final determination, I would request that you choose the term that would be of the most equitable benefit possible to those who have served our nation.

The complexity of the issue you are faced with is daunting, but I would implore your team to fully examine if the plan and its application meet the criteria set forth by the Multiemployer Pension Reform Act; and I hope you will fully review the thousands of comments you have received from hardworking Americans in my district and across the country.

Sincerely,



Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress