

emphasis on fighting gun violence, and they would thwart the President's plan (and the Nation's call) to protect our children and our communities from gun violence.

- **Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP).** The sequestration would cut \$338 million from BOP's current budget. BOP would face a furlough of nearly 36,700 onboard staff for an average of 12 days, plus curtailment of future hiring, if sequestration occurs. This equates to about a 5 percent reduction in onboard staff levels and would endanger the safety of staff and over 218,000 inmates. As a consequence, BOP would need to implement full or partial lockdowns and significantly reduce inmate reentry and training programs. This would leave inmates idle, increasing the likelihood of inmate misconduct, violence, and other risks to correctional workers and inmates. Further, limiting or eliminating inmate programs such as drug treatment and vocational education would, in fact, lead to higher costs to taxpayers and communities in the long run as the lack of such inmate re-entry training makes it less likely that released inmates will be successful at reintegration into society upon their release.

Further, BOP would slow the ongoing activations of new prisons that have completed construction during the last few years (FCI Berlin, NH, and FCI Aliceville, AL). BOP would not begin the FY 2013 planned activations of FCI Hazelton, WV, or USP Yazoo City, MS. BOP would still incur costs to secure and maintain these prisons, along with the prison in Thomson, IL. These five prisons represent over 8,100 beds that BOP would not be able to utilize fully at a time when our prisons are filled over rated capacity. In addition, the communities surrounding the prisons would not benefit from the significant economic activity that a prison engenders. We estimate that sequestration will mean over 3,800 fewer jobs related to the prison activations that would be foregone (including an estimated 1,500 private sector jobs).

I am acutely concerned about staff and inmate safety should cuts of the sequestration's magnitude hit BOP. To be blunt, sequestration means less money, not fewer inmates. We would still have the same number of inmates – over 218,000 – after sequestration as before. This kind of dangerous situation is exactly why sequestration needs to be avoided and sensible, balanced deficit reductions achieved. While I plan to take every available step within my authority to aid BOP should sequestration happen, these steps cannot mitigate the severity of every cut faced by BOP.

- **U.S. Marshals Service (USMS).** The sequestration would cut nearly \$60 million from the USMS' current budget. USMS is facing the need to furlough its 5,100 employees for up to 13 days (two days per pay period between April 1 and September 30) and implement a hiring freeze. This would result in a reduced capacity to apprehend violent fugitives, investigate sex offenders, protect witnesses and the judiciary, and ensure safe and humane care and transportation of prisoners. Fewer deputy marshals partnered with state and local officers could increase violent crime, gang activity, and the number of violent fugitives. Because deputy marshals cannot forego tasks such as transporting prisoners and guarding cell blocks, the sequestration will reduce the USMS staff assigned

FedCURE Note: If The BARBER AMENDMENT had been enacted last year, the BOP would not be facing life and death consequence of the Sequester--the negative impacts-- the AG's letter warns, *supra*. Totally avoidable. Please contact your Congress person(s) urging them to support The BARBER AMENDMENT: <http://www.fedcure.org/documents/HR1475.shtml>

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