



## National Weather Service Employees Organization

January 12, 2011

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The National Weather Service Employees Organization would like to express their deep regret and disappointment over your administration's decision to freeze the wages of federal employees. This is especially disconcerting to our members in light of the double-digit increase in the employee contribution to their health care coverage through the FEHB.

The vast majority of all federal employees, including NWS employees, work outside of the Beltway. Their salaries stimulate local economies and housing markets across the country. The economic impact of the wage freeze to communities is vast compared to the minuscule impact it has on the nation's deficit.

NWSEO was the first national labor union to endorse your presidential bid and our members worked long and hard on your campaign in 2008. They did this because they believed in your vision for America. Now, they feel discouraged that your actions are working against them as they struggle in this difficult economy. While we maintain hope that your administration will succeed, we feel that freezing federal employee pay is economically and politically unwise.

National Weather Service employees endure great hardships, report for duty even if the government is shut down or in the event of natural or man-made emergencies during which other Federal employees are excused. They do this, knowing their careers will not lead to great wealth, but out of a love for the service to others. We ask you to reconsider the federal employee pay freeze for 2012. If, however, you choose to freeze federal wages for 2012, please consider freezing employee contributions to the FEHB to help mitigate the financial burden facing some of our nation's most crucial and loyal workers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Sobien', written in a cursive style.

Daniel Sobien  
NWSEO President

601 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20004