



# WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

November 16, 2015

Senator Tammy Baldwin  
717 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Baldwin:

We are writing you to express our concerns about recent plans by the Central States Pension Fund (CSPF) to cut pensions for thousands of Wisconsinites. As members of the Assembly Committee on Labor, we ask you to work to resolve this impending cutback, which falls directly on your hard working middle class constituents.

While the CSPF does face financial solvency problems, the drastic nature of these cuts, which fall squarely on the middle class, will have far-reaching consequences for our state and country. We ask you to urge the Treasury Department to reject this plan until labor and business leaders can work together to find solutions which work for all parties involved. In addition, we would ask you to use all avenues necessary to alleviate the burden on the middle class, including protections through the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation or special legislation, should these cuts come to fruition.

The Wisconsinites affected by the cuts worked hard in their careers and planned for a retirement with the benefits as promised. If these cuts go through as proposed, it will risk the financial security of thousands in Wisconsin and put our state's economy in danger of serious harm. We cannot allow Wisconsinites who have worked hard, earned their pensions, and planned their retirements, to face such a drastic and sudden drop-off. A cut of over 50%, which many individuals are facing, would devastate those who have worked difficult jobs throughout their lives and can no longer go back to their old positions.

We want to thank you for your time, and hope we can find a sensible solution to help Wisconsin's middle class and economy. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact any of our offices.

Sincerely,

Tod Ohnstad  
State Representative  
65<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Christine Sinicki  
State Representative  
20<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

Cory Mason  
State Representative  
66<sup>th</sup> Assembly District

cc: Senator Johnson  
Representatives Ryan, Kind, Sensenbrenner, Moore, Duffy, Ribble, Pocan, and Grothman