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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

September 13, 2016

President Barack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to urge you to finally support efforts to repeal the arbitrary budget cuts to our national defense. These rigid, across-the-board cuts – or sequestration – are poised to become an unfortunate and lasting legacy of your Administration. The devastating impacts of sequestration on our national security have changed the way the Department of Defense makes critical decisions and formulates its strategy.

Given that both Presidential nominees have now called for an end to sequestration, I invite you to join both of your potential successors and support efforts to immediately repeal sequestration and the devastating impact it has on our national defense and men and women in uniform. After all, the 2017 budget is about the next administration. Sequestration has not only forced drastic personnel reductions, but also hindered our military's ability to meet basic readiness levels and execute critical modernization programs necessary to maintain a qualitative advantage over our adversaries. If allowed to remain in place, the consequences of sequestration on our national defense will impact our national security strategy for years to come. As you enter your final months as President, I encourage you to keep in mind that both our national defense and our next Commander in Chief will benefit from the strategic options that the repeal of sequestration provides.

It is undeniable that the United States and our allies currently face some of the greatest risks and most complex security challenges in recent history. The safety of our citizens and our men and women in uniform should not be a partisan issue. In fact, Democratic Presidential nominee Hillary Clinton recently stated:

**“The sequester makes our country less secure, let’s end it and get a budget deal that supports America’s military, our families, and our country.”**

Since both of your likely successors have called for an end to sequestration, it is imperative that you act timely to ensure our military, and the next administration, has the resources needed to address the entire scope of our military's engagements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael R. Turner".

Michael R. Turner  
Member of Congress