

Sample Message / Talking Points:

There are millions of workers impacted by the government shutdown. While direct government employees will be offered back pay, millions of government contract employees are also out of work and not guaranteed to receive back pay at this point in time. I am contacting you to voice my support for the legislation being introduced to offer back pay to government contract employees when the shutdown ends.

I am an employee (supporter) of Chimes, a multi-state agency that provides employment opportunities for people with disabilities through numerous government contracts at airports, government buildings and military installations. Chimes team members are facing major financial hardships as a result of not being paid since the shutdown began December 22, 2018. Nearly all of those impacted are working in low wage jobs and are having trouble paying bills, making rent and providing basic necessities for their families.

Many workers are without health insurance as well, leading to acute problems for employees – or their family members - who require medication for diabetes, seizure disorders (including disabled veterans) and other chronic illnesses as well as those who rely on medication to keep severe problem behavior under control.

I urge you to support and quickly pass this legislation when it is introduced in the Senate.

Thank you for your consideration.