

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

**The 9/11 Health and Compensation Act was fully paid for—It
should be exempt from the sequester**

Dear Colleague:

We urge you to join us in cosponsoring H.R. 811—the Never Forget 9/11 Heroes Act. This bipartisan legislation will add the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund and the World Trade Center Health Program to the list of programs exempt from the sequester cuts.

Over 150 programs that are similar to the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund and the World Trade Center Health Program are exempt from sequestration as part of PAYGO. These programs include the Radiation Exposure Compensation Trust Fund, Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Fund, the Black Lung Disability Trust Fund and others.

The 9/11 health and compensation programs are not on the exempt list simply because the revised PAYGO statute, with its updated list of programs exempt from sequester cuts, was passed a year before the 9/11 bill was signed into law. In fact, the 9/11 Health and Compensation Act was one of the first major programs passed under the new and revised PAYGO requirement that any costs be offset. The 9/11 Health and Compensation Act was fully paid for and provided an additional \$433 million for deficit reduction.

Sequestration would cut the Victim Compensation Fund by \$166 million over the next 4 years and the WTC Health Program by \$69 million over the next 4 years. These reductions would come just as the Victim Compensation Fund has started making payments and the WTC Health Program has begun to implement coverage for cancer. After years of battling to get these programs in place, it would be cruel to slash this essential funding.

If you have any questions or would like to cosponsor, please contact Deena Tauster (P. King) at 5-7896, Elizabeth Darnall (Maloney) at 5-7944, or John Doty (Nadler) at 5-5635.

Sincerely,


PETER T. KING
Member of Congress


CAROLYN MALONEY JERROLD NADLER
Member of Congress Member of Congress