



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL ENGINEERS AFL-CIO & CLC

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April 25, 2023

Dear Representative,

As the Executive Officers of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE), an AFL-CIO affiliated labor union representing upwards of 90,000 workers in the federal, public, and private sectors, we are writing to urge you to oppose the so-called “Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023,” introduced by House Budget Committee Chairman Jodey Arrington.

Speaker Kevin McCarthy, Chairman Arrington, and the authors of this legislation claim that it is intended to reach a compromise to increase the nation’s debt ceiling. However, it is nothing more than political theatre and does not represent a good-faith effort to rectify this serious situation. Instead, this draconian bill before you will either eliminate or drastically cut many of the very programs and initiatives that so many workers and retirees in every Congressional district rely on, including reversing pension saving legislation, ending clean energy tax credits that will lead to tens of thousands of good-paying jobs, and cutting resources to the IRS that will not save money, but will instead actually increase our national deficit.

Here is a list of the many provisions of this bill that IFPTE believes are irresponsible:

- **Denial of financial assistance funds for rescuing multiemployer pension plans.** Currently, 42 applications are under review, and over 100 pension plans are waiting their turn to file for financial assistance. This pension rescue plan was passed in the House with bipartisan support in the 116th Congress as the Butch Lewis Act (H.R. 397). This will unfairly create a financial burden for workers and retirees who were counting on their pension benefits to be shored up.
- **Repeal of federal investments to modernize the energy sector.** This legislation will hamper job creation in the energy sector, hurt American workers and America’s energy independence, and undermine commitments to achieving clean energy goals. These provisions will eliminate energy production and investment tax credits that will support good paying jobs in advanced nuclear energy, hydrogen production, hydroelectric power, sustainable aviation fuels, and wind and solar power.
- **Repeals critical funding for the Internal Revenue Service included in the Inflation Reduction Act.** The \$80 billion funding is necessary for improving the delivery of services to taxpayers, providing the agency resources to effectively enforce tax laws, restore staffing levels, and provide more than \$200 billion in tax revenue over 10 years.
- **Termination of student loan debt forgiveness for federal borrowers and termination of the Department of Education’s income-driven repayment plan.** This hurts working people burdened with student loan debt, which has outpaced other forms of consumer borrowing and harms national economic competitiveness and pathways to the middle class.
- **Cuts federal government spending to Fiscal Year 2022 levels, which will have devastating impacts on our nation’s veterans, seniors, workers, public safety, and national security.** Underfunding government services means veterans will wait longer to receive services at the Veterans Health Administration, retirees will face delays and service cutbacks at Social

Security field offices, workers would lose job training and registered apprenticeship opportunities, communities would be impacted by significant cuts to FBI personnel and federal support for the COPS hiring program, and some 4,500 wildland firefighters will be furloughed, and some 1 million people will lose mental health crisis support services and an estimated 2 million Americans would lose access to healthcare provided by Community Health Centers.

This is not a serious attempt to address the dire need to increase the debt ceiling. IFPTE urges you to vote against it. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us directly or IFPTE Legislative Director Faraz Khan at 202-239-4892.

Sincerely,



Matthew S. Biggs
IFPTE President



Gay Henson
IFPTE Secretary-Treasurer

