

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4602

March 5, 2018

The Honorable Kathleen McGettigan
Acting Director
Office of Personnel Management
1900 E Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20415-1000

Dear Acting Director McGettigan,

We write to urge the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to initiate the rulemaking process to establish the Virginia Beach-Norfolk (VA-NC CSA) locality pay area by January 2019.

Each year since 2015, the Federal Salary Council has recommended to the President's Pay Agent that Virginia Beach-Norfolk be established as a separate locality pay area. We were disappointed to learn the new locality pay was not instituted by January 2018, even when the Pay Agent had approved the establishment of the new locality. This continuous delay in implementation is extremely frustrating for our 30,594 federal employees who live and work throughout this locality area.

The federal employees located in our districts contribute in large part to the overall functioning of our government. We are proud to say that our districts are home to a number of Department of Defense installations that are critical to the safety and security of our country. These installations depend upon the hard work and dedication of these federal employees and their direct contributions to our national security. That said, it is imperative that we maintain our ability to recruit and retain the most qualified employees. Years of pay freezes, and rising cost of living expenses, on top of a pay gap make it difficult for families and individuals to sustain a good standard of living.

Our constituents were led to believe the pay adjustment would be in effect by January 2018. Given the Federal Salary Council's consistent recommendation and the President's Pay Agent's approval, we are inquiring as to why the rulemaking process was not set into motion to achieve the January 2018 date and for an update on current implementation plans.

We request that OPM initiate the rule making process as soon as possible so our constituents can enjoy the much-deserved pay adjustment by January 2019. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Scott Taylor
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress

Walter B. Jones

Walter Jones
Member of Congress

G. K. Butterfield

G. K. Butterfield
Member of Congress