

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

March 19, 2009

The Honorable Joseph I. Lieberman Chairman Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to submit the report required under Section 4 of the General Services Administration Modernization Act, Public Law 109-313 (41 U.S.C. 433), which provides agencies the authority to reemploy retired federal employees, or annuitants, without the usual salary offset in acquisition-related positions. Under section 4, the Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy must report annually on the use of this authority.

A strong acquisition workforce is critical to meeting each agency's unique mission, and this additional hiring authority provides our community much needed flexibility in building that strength. According to data provided by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), in 2008 agencies reemployed 57 annuitants (see table below). Agencies are gaining experience with implementing this authority and we expect more annuitants will be hired in the near term, particularly in response to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act ("Recovery Act") and the increased demands it places on the acquisition workforce. In fact, the Office of Management and Budget issued initial guidance on the Recovery Act on February 18th and highlighted this authority as part of a solution to hire acquisition employees after determining workforce needs.

	No. Annuitants
Agency	Reemployed
Air Force	8
Army	21
DoD	9
DOL	1
FTC	1
DHS	6
DOI	2
NASA	1
Navy	6
DOT	1
VA	1
Total	57

Number of Reemployed Annuitants Hired into Acquisition Related Positions in Fiscal Year 2008

My office is working with the Federal Acquisition Institute (FAI) and OPM to provide information to agency human capital officers and acquisition hiring managers about recruiting and retention strategies through our Federal Acquisition Intern Coalition initiative. Last year, OPM hosted a workshop that focused on how agencies can use different hiring authorities, including reemploying annuitants. This workshop is posted on FAI's website at: <u>http://www.fai.gov/acm/workshops.asp</u> and agencies continue to access this information to facilitate their hiring efforts.

Thank you for your interest in the acquisition workforce and we look forward to working with you and your staffs on continued efforts to strengthen this critical resource.

Sincerely,

Links a. Fuld

Lesley A. Field Deputy Administrator

Identical letter sent to The Honorable Susan M. Collins The Honorable Edolphus Towns and The Honorable Darrell Issa