

MITCH McCONNELL
KENTUCKY



United States Senate
MAJORITY LEADER
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

December 1, 2017

The Honorable Susan Collins
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Collins:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about the across-the-board spending cuts. You will be pleased to know that Speaker Paul Ryan and I issued the following joint statement earlier today:

“Critics of tax reform are claiming the legislation would lead to massive, across-the-board spending cuts in vital programs—including a 4-percent reduction in Medicare—due to the Pay-Go law enacted in 2010. This will not happen. Congress has readily available methods to waive this law, which has never been enforced since its enactment. There is no reason to believe that Congress would not act again to prevent a sequester, and we will work to ensure these spending cuts are prevented.”

Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mitch McConnell".

MITCH McCONNELL
MAJORITY LEADER

MM/aj