Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 7, 2013

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing you regarding the announcement by your Administration suspending all White House tours for the American people effective Saturday, March 9, 2013. We urge you to reconsider this ill-conceived decision to restrict patriotic Americans' access to one of the most popular public buildings in Washington, DC.

Although this notice from the White House claims the decision was made due to staffing reductions from your sequester, it is not clear that suspending these self-guided tours saves significant dollars. We are concerned that our constituents are being used to make a political point and will incur the pain of the sequester.

This action comes just before the Spring Break tour season when thousands of American families travel from across the country to learn more about the history of our nation's capital. Families have waited several months before earning the promise of a White House tour. For many of these visitors, this opportunity will not present itself again.

It has been reported that access to the White House can be gained for a political donation of $500,000, according to the *New York Times*. Why are our constituents being denied that same access? Is it your intent to allow access only to wealthy contributors?

At a time when Americans are looking to the White House for leadership, they should not have the door slammed in their face.

Sincerely,

Steve Stivers
Member of Congress

Tom Reed
Member of Congress

Lynn Westmoreland
Member of Congress

Steve King
Member of Congress

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John Culberson
Member of Congress

David McKinley
Member of Congress

Mick Mulvaney
Member of Congress

Stephen Fincher
Member of Congress

Don Young
Member of Congress

Larry Bucshon
Member of Congress

Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress

Steve Womack
Member of Congress

Candice Miller
Member of Congress

Matt Salmon
Member of Congress

Dennis Ross
Member of Congress

Ralph Hall
Member of Congress

Aaron Schock
Member of Congress

Bill Johnson
Member of Congress

Alan Nunnelee
Member of Congress

Patrick J. Tiberi
Member of Congress

Pete Olson
Member of Congress

Sam Graves
Member of Congress

Jim Bridenstine
Member of Congress

Steve Scalise
Member of Congress

Jaime Herrera Beutler
Member of Congress

Walter Jones
Member of Congress

John Fleming
Member of Congress

Howard Coble
Member of Congress

Rob Bishop
Member of Congress

Brad Wenstrup
Member of Congress

Bob Gibbs
Member of Congress

Bill Flores
Member of Congress

Jim Renacci
Member of Congress

Phil Roe
Member of Congress

Ted Yoho
Member of Congress FL #3

Adam Kinzinger
Member of Congress

Diane Black
Member of Congress

Chris Stewart
Member of Congress

David Schweikert
Member of Congress

Roger Williams
Member of Congress

Bill Cassidy
Member of Congress

Joe Wilson
Member of Congress

Kerry Bentivolio
Member of Congress

Bill Posey
Member of Congress

Sean Duffy
Member of Congress

Jack Kingston
Member of Congress

John Campbell
Member of Congress

Richard Nugent
Member of Congress

Tim Griffin
Member of Congress

Joe Barton
Member of Congress

Vicky Hartzler
Member of Congress

Bob Goodlatte
Member of Congress

Andy Barr
Member of Congress

Bill Huizenga
Member of Congress

Michael Burgess
Member of Congress

Tom Price
Member of Congress