

The Chief

Civil Service LEADER

THE CIVIL EMPLOYEES' WEEKLY

End Politics Over Zadroga

To the Editor:

The following is a letter that was sent to select U.S. Senators by my law firm at the urging of the Feal Good Foundation, which it is believed could potentially break the Republican filibuster which is currently preventing the James Zadroga Bill from becoming law. I encourage all to reach out to the Foundation for the list of Senators who could be swing votes in this critical and monumental piece of legislation:

Dear Senators,

I am a New York City disability pension lawyer. I have represented many 9/11 first-responders, and met and interacted with many more. I have seen first-hand the devastating effects that 9/11 has had on their health and on their lives. I have met their families and witnessed the ongoing and very personal effects of the World Trade Center attacks on not just the responders, but those close to them.

I invite you to contact me directly if you would like to discuss some of what I have encountered or, if you are willing, to speak directly with or even meet some of these brave men and women of whom I am speaking.

I realize that you feel a fiscal responsibility to the country; but don't you also have an ethical and moral obligation, which is inherent to your elected position, to take care of Americans and their families who came to the aid of the nation when it was attacked? I believe that if you sat face-to-face with some of these responders, and listened to what their lives have become since performing bravely for this country at the World Trade Center attack site, you would understand the need to pass the "Zadroga Bill," so that they could, at the very least, gain the benefits it provides.

In my opinion, there is no viable justification to vote against this bill. And by not voting for the bill, you are an example of government at its worst, and have broken your own oath to the people of the United States, as you have allowed "politics" to come before the well-being of Americans injured while protecting our country, and have abandoned the moral and ethical responsibilities required of our nation's Senators. Thank you for your time. I hope to hear from you.

CHET LUKASZEWSKI

