

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3309

March 6, 2013

Dear Friend:

Thank you for your interest in visiting our Nation's capital. America has the most open and accessible seat of government in the world, and I am pleased you will be able to travel to Washington to see our democracy in action.

Regrettably, President Barack Obama has decided to play politics with your vacation. Yesterday, the White House Visitor's Office emailed my staff the following message:

Due to staffing reductions resulting from sequestration, we regret to inform you that White House Tours will be canceled effective Saturday, March 9, 2013 until further notice. Unfortunately, we will not be able to reschedule affected tours.

WHITE HOUSE TOURS ARE PREDOMINANTLY SELF-LED. President Obama's decision to close the White House to the public makes no sense, and amounts to partisan political games. While you worked hard for your income, and at a time when American families are struggling to make ends meet, Washington should take serious steps toward reducing spending. We must cut waste, like the \$450 million in pledged aid to Egypt, largely influenced by the Muslim Brotherhood, rather than engage in a dog-and-pony show with hardworking American families and their vacations. While that aid to Egypt may help the Egyptians in their tourist industry to the pyramids, it will not help you get a job, pay your bills, or assist with your trip to Washington.

My Republican colleagues and I are working hard to restore accountability, fiscal sanity, and efficiency to your government. Also, the United Solutions caucus, of which I am co-founder and co-chair, is dedicated to working in a bipartisan fashion to bring about real change to our struggling economy. To learn more about our efforts, please visit www.pittenger.house.gov/UnitedSolutions.

Again, I apologize for the inconvenience of having your White House tour cancelled. While the President may have shut down the White House, my office and the United States Capitol remain open for business and tours, and we would love for you to stop by during your visit to Washington. Should you have any questions, or if I may ever be of service, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,



Robert Pittenger
Member of Congress