



AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO

Eric Bunn Sr.
National Secretary-Treasurer

Dr. Everett B. Kelley
National President

Dr. Kendrick B. Roberson
NVP for Women & Fair Practices

July 2, 2026

Dear Member of Congress:

On behalf of the American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO, which represents over 800,000 federal and D.C. government employees including at the Bureau of Prisons, I write to urge you to oppose the Bureau's decision to close the following six correctional institutions:

- Beaumont FCI Low, Jefferson County, Texas
- Big Spring FCI and Satellite Camp, Big Spring, Texas
- La Tuna FCI, FSL (Federal Satellite Low), and Satellite Camp, Anthony, Texas
- Lexington FMC Satellite Camp, Lexington, Kentucky
- Petersburg FCI Low, Hopewell, VA
- Taft FCI, Taft, California

The Bureau cites staffing shortages and deteriorating infrastructure as the reasons for these closures. Yet Congress has already provided approximately \$3 billion for personnel and \$2 billion for infrastructure through the One Big Beautiful Bill Act to address those exact challenges. Those investments should be used to strengthen the federal prison system, not dismantle it.

Closing these facilities will make communities less safe, place greater strain on already overworked correctional staff, reduce the Bureau's operational capacity, and eliminate federal jobs that support families and local economies. It also abandons communities that have long partnered with the federal government to fulfill an essential public safety mission. The men and women who work in our federal prisons serve the American people every day under difficult and often dangerous conditions. They deserve the resources Congress has already provided to recruit and retain staff, modernize facilities, and improve safety, not decisions that force layoffs, transfers, and permanent closures.

AFGE urges Congress to exercise its oversight authority and require the Bureau to suspend these closures while the funding Congress has already appropriated is put to its intended purpose. Thank you for your leadership and your support of the federal employees who serve the American people every day.

Sincerely,

Everett Kelley
National President
American Federation of Government Employees

