

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4804

ENERGY AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

October 8, 2013

The Honorable Chuck Hagel  
Secretary of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301-1000

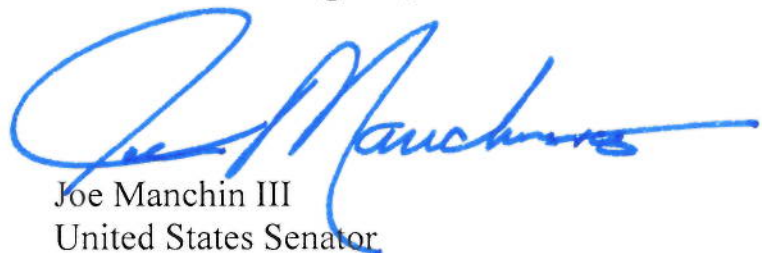
Dear Secretary Hagel,

It has come to my attention that the Department of Defense cannot pay certain benefits to families of the Fallen because the government is shut down.

This afternoon, I spoke to Ken Fisher, the CEO of the Fisher House Foundation. The Fisher House Foundation humbly volunteered to offer the families an advance grant to ensure there is no funding gap during the most difficult of times, with the understanding that reimbursements would be made at an appropriate time. The Fisher House will fund flights, hotels and other incidentals for all family members.

I wanted to bring this to your attention in the quickest manner so that no military family finds itself in need during a time of great hardship and grief.

With Warmest Regards,



Joe Manchin III  
United States Senator