

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2202

September 7, 2010

Mr. Daniel F. Akerson
Chief Executive Officer
General Motors
300 Renaissance Center
Tower 300
Detroit, MI 48265

Dear Mr. Akerson:

I write to you regarding the salaried retirees from the former Delphi Automotive Corporation, many of whom were previously employed by General Motors Corporation. I have heard from many Delphi Salaried Retirees in Michigan, and their families, who are experiencing significant hardships as a result of a reduction in their pensions. These retirees have asked for a reconsideration of the decisions that led to the reduction in their pension benefits.

In July 2009, Delphi's pension plans were terminated and turned over to the Pension Benefit Guarantee Corporation (PBGC). In accordance with federal guidelines established under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), the PBGC has reduced the pension payments for the majority of Delphi retirees, in some cases by a significant percentage. The pension reductions have affected individuals across the spectrum, from those who accepted early retirement during Delphi's restructuring effort to those that spent the majority of their professional careers with GM before Delphi was spun off.

These former employees built lives, grew families, and made long-term financial decisions based on the expectation that pension benefits they earned would support them in retirement. I applaud GM's decision to honor contractual pension obligations for the majority of Delphi's unionized employees. Like their colleagues, the Delphi Salaried Retirees also worked diligently for many years in support of the General Motors and Delphi brands.

We are all aware that these have been tough economic times for the domestic automotive industry and that difficult, painful decision were necessary in order to restructure your company for long term viability. The importance of maintaining our automotive manufacturing capacity cannot be understated, and that is the primary reason I supported drastic steps to insure its survival. Over the past century, our domestic automakers have played a critical role in the successes of our country, both at home and abroad. And, importantly, the auto industry created good paying jobs for millions of Americans, which helped build and sustain the American middle class.

In keeping with GM's tradition of commitment to its employees, and in light of the improved circumstances of GM, I urge you to review the decision not to cover the pension benefits for some Delphi retirees and to consider bringing all interested parties to the table in an attempt to bring a fair and equitable resolution to this situation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carl Levin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "C".

Carl Levin

CC: The Honorable Timothy Geithner
Mr. Joshua Gotbaum
Mr. Rodney O'Neal
Mr. Den Black