

2020-2021 National/State Legislative Committee

Members

Carolyn C. London, Chair

Theron Rumsey, Area I

Vacant, Area II

Christine Huber, Area III

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Charles E. Talley, Federation National Legislative, Advisor

John Allis, Federation State Legislative, Advisor

President Trump's budget for fiscal year 2020 included numerous proposals to cut earned federal benefits, totaling more than \$177 billion over 10 years. NARFE's steadfast dedication to defending the interests of federal retirees and employees resulted in several legislative accomplishments in 2019, the first year of the 116th Congress. The Association's advocacy efforts over the past year focused on defeating proposals that threatened to cut billions from federal benefits, improving pay rates, enhancing benefits, guaranteeing federal workers were made whole after the longest government shutdown in history, and protecting the integrity, of the agency functions on which federal employees and retirees rely. NARFE and its members with work – along with persistence, perseverance, and patience, accomplished: Blocked the OPM Reorganization Plan, Prevented Cuts to Earned Pay and Benefits, Secured Pay Raises for Federal Employees in 2019 and 2020, Provided

Paid Parental Leave for Federal Employees, and Secured Guaranteed Pay for Employees Furloughed During Government Shutdowns.

This committee recommends that we support NARFE'S Advocacy Program that primarily focuses on the following priorities:

- Protecting federal and postal retirees' existing retirement and health benefits from reductions and/or erosion.**
- Protecting federal civilian and postal employees' pay, retirement, and health benefits.**
- Protecting the viability, stability and standard service of established federal government functions.**

The committee further supports legislative priorities for the 116th Congress to include Reform of the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) that unfairly reduces earned Social Security benefits based on government work, more accurate COLAs for Federal Retirees by using CPI-E instead of CPI-W, improvements to OPM operations, and improved integration of Medicare with FEHB.

It is very apparent that NARFE members and retirees have plenty of work to do to defend our earned pay, retirement annuities, and health benefits, given the threats and the President's proposed budget. We must keep up with the issues and let our voices be heard.

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116th Congress. The Association's advocacy efforts over the last year focused on defeating proposals that threatened to cut billions from federal benefits, improving pay rates, enhancing benefits, guaranteeing federal workers are made whole after government shutdown, and protecting the integrity of the agency functions on which federal employees and retirees rely. NARFE and its members with hard word—along with persistence, perseverance, and patience accomplished the following: Blocked the OPM Reorganization Plan, Prevented Cuts to Earned Pay and Benefits, Secured Pay Raises for Federal Employees in 2019 and 2020, Secured Guaranteed Back Pay for Employees Furloughed During Government Shutdowns.

National Legislative Issues:

- **Encourage members at all levels of the Federation to utilize NARFE Legislative Action Center www.narfe.org and NARFE Magazine to monitor votes and contact elected representatives concerning legislation endorsed or opposed by NARFE. Also, use it to write letters and email them to the editors of local newspapers. This is a great Social/Physical Distancing opportunity. Please share your advocacy efforts with the National Legislative Officer.**
- **Reach out to the entire Federal community to email all legislators at the local, county, state and national levels to assure they understand the many contributions federal employees and retirees make to each level.**
- **Oppose across-the-board Federal compensation and benefits reductions.**

- **Support reform of the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and the Government Pension Offset (GPO) that would provide relief to current retirees who earned social security benefits in addition to their annuity as a government retiree.**
- **Oppose requiring postal employees to either purchase additional health insurance coverage (through Medicare) or forfeit their earned retiree health benefits.**
- **Oppose unwise civil service “reform” policies that would undermine the effectiveness of the federal workforce.**
- **Support reforms to calculating Medicare Part B premiums where there is a zero or low COLA for Social Security benefits.**
- **Support the use of the CPI-E (elderly) for adjusting the annuities of Social Security and federal retirees.**
- **Support reforms to the Federal Long-Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP) that would ensure price stability and affordability.**
- **Support the budget for legislative training at the Federation, Area, and Chapter levels annual estimate \$1500.00**
- **Support the budget to pay travel for CDLs and SDLs annual estimate \$1000.00 and to fund trips for National Legislative Office to attend LegCon estimate \$2000.00.**
- **Ensure CDLs and SDLs are appointed and trained in accordance with approved Federation Bylaws.**

State Legislative Issues:

- **Support the Bailey Settlement extension and report actions to Chapters.**
- **Sign up for the 4th Branch alerts at info@4thbranchnc.org to keep engaged in efforts to advocate for the extension of the Bailey Settlement which would provide equal tax treatment for all government retirees.**
- **Visit the NC General Assembly website where you will find all members and the districts they represent. Contact them and encourage them to support the Bailey Settlement Extension, HB-213.**
- **Support NARFE's efforts to recognize Public Service Recognition Week (May 3-9). Participate in this week of celebration by sending a letter to the editors of your local newspapers. Share your story of public service and let public employees know that their dedication and hard work have not gone unnoticed.**

Respectively Submitted

Carolyn C. London

Chair, Legislative Committee

