



State Advocacy 101

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Agenda

- **Importance of state advocacy**
- **NARFE's state advocacy program**
- **How to be a state advocate**
- **Resources for NARFE members**
- ***Davis v. Michigan***
- ***Dawson v. Steager***

Importance of State Advocacy

- **States are proving grounds**
- **Taxes on pay and benefits**
- **Long-term care insurance and more**
- **Building familiarity with NARFE**

States Are Proving Grounds

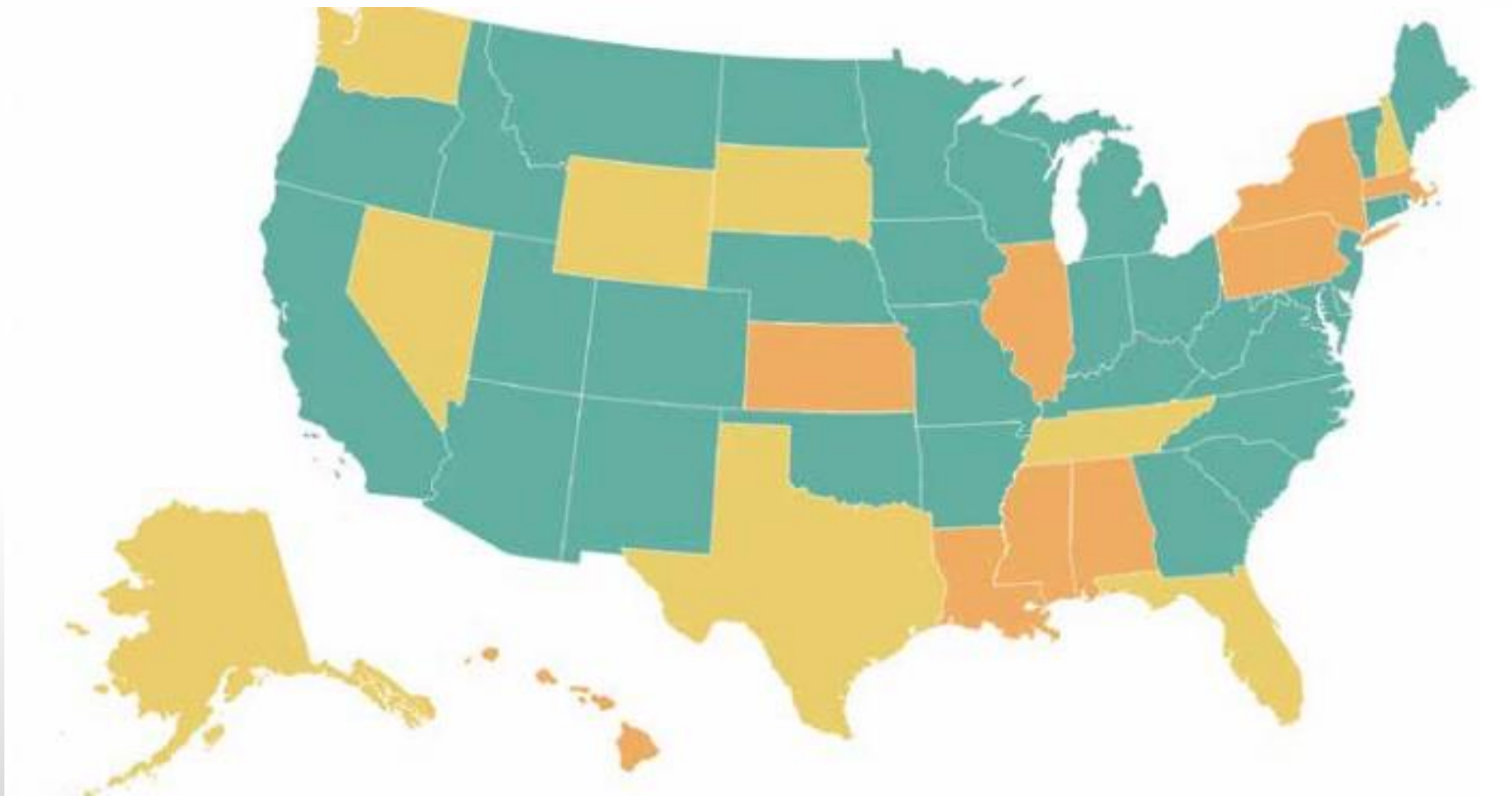
- **State trends become national policy**
- **Defense and offense**



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State Taxes



National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

Other Issue Areas

**Long-term care
insurance**

Caretaker issues

Gerrymandering

Indexing

**Any NARFE-
related issue**

Indexing



Building Familiarity with NARFE

How many states have a least one former state legislator serving in either the House or Senate?



NARFE's State Advocacy Program

State Legislative Chair

- **What is this position?**
- **What are the responsibilities?**
- **Does your federation have one?**

How to be a State Advocate



Who?



What?



When?

Create a State Advocacy Program

**Form a
committee**

1

**Compile the
issues**

2

**Provide
reasoning**

3

**Policy
solutions**

4

**Federation
support**

5

**Formalize
and publish**

6

Rally Your Federation

- **Start a grassroots campaign**
- **Send letters**
- **Make calls**
- **Schedule one-on-one meetings**
- **Find possible coalition partners**
- **Be the source for legislators**

How to Draft a Prewritten Email

- **Keep it brief**
- **Identify NARFE and yourself**
- **Quickly introduce your concern**
- **Succinctly explain issue**
- **Reiterate**

Meeting with a State Legislator

- **Scheduling the meeting**
- **Background information**
- **Be prepared**
- **Thank you**
- **Contact the Advocacy Department**



Day on the Hill



National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association

Resources for NARFE Members



STATE ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

Why State Advocacy Is Important

While much of NARFE's advocacy efforts are focused on federal issues, individual states provide an additional playing field for NARFE members to fight for their retirement security. NARFE members can take action on a host of issues, including those surrounding taxes, long-term care insurance, health care and much more. This toolkit is meant to guide NARFE federations as they create and carry out state-level advocacy. Use the resources in this toolkit to construct and maintain an effective state-level advocacy program.

Roles and Responsibilities of a State Legislative Chair

Each federation should have a State Legislative Chair to provide leadership for their federation's state-level advocacy efforts. State Legislative Chairs serve as the liaison between NARFE members, federation leadership, elected state officials and NARFE's Advocacy Department.

Resources for NARFE Members



Resources for NARFE Members

NARFE FACT SHEET

OKLAHOMA'S FEDERAL FAMILY

Total Active and Retired Federal and Postal Employees
93,060

Oklahoma's Federal Family

Federal Annuitants¹ 47,799
 Active Federal Employees² 38,259
 U.S. Postal Service Employees² 7,002

Oklahoma's Largest Employers⁴

#1 Department of Defense
 #3 United States Postal Service
 #8 Department of Veterans Affairs

Oklahoma's Federal Employees²

Department	Employees	Largest Agencies within Department
Agriculture	830	Natural Resources Conservation Service, Farm Service Agency
Commerce	412	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Census Bureau
Defense	23,063	Tinker Air Force Base, McAlester Ammunition Army Base, Fort Sill Army Base, Abus Air Force Base, Vance Air Force Base
Justice	458	Bureau of Prisons
Labor	32	
Energy	97	
Health and Human Services	8,514	Indian Health Service
Homeland Security	107	
Housing and Urban Development	108	
Interior	893	Indian Affairs, Office of the Secretary
Transportation	3,529	Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
Treasury	172	Internal Revenue Service (IRS)
Veterans Affairs	5,422	Veterans Benefits Administration, Veterans Health Administration, Oklahoma City VA Health Care System, Jack C. Montgomery VA Medical Center
Non-Cabinet agencies	678	Social Security Administration (SSA)
Total	38,259	

¹ Office of Personnel Management (OPM) January 2018
² Office of Personnel Management (OPM) December 2017
³ Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) April 2018
⁴ Career One Stop <http://www.careeronestop.org>

For more information, please contact Jessica Clement, Staff Vice President of Advocacy, at JClement@narfe.org or John Hutton, Deputy Director of Advocacy, at John.Hutton@narfe.org



Find Politicians

Elected Officials Candidates

ZIP Code

Davis v. Michigan

A state may not grant total exemptions from state income taxation to state government pensioners, unless it grants the same exemptions to federal government pensioners.

Dawson v. Steager



Takeaways

- **Opportunity to advance NARFE's agenda on the state level**
- **Develop and update your state advocacy program**
- **Plan a day to visit your legislators**
- **Use all the resources available**

Questions?

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