



CSFC-California State  
Federation of Chapters

# CDL News & Views



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A Newsletter for CA  
Congressional District  
Leaders and the CSFC  
National Legislation  
Committee

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- August is ending – How did Grassroots Advocacy Month pan out?
- Can we use Social Media in our CDL outreach efforts?
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## As the summer winds down . . .

I've received a fair amount of positive feedback to the first issue of this Newsletter. Thanks to all who wrote to share their thoughts & suggestions, some of which I include below.

One of the suggestions (I'm looking at you Bob Boucher) was to include a photo of me at the head of this column so you can have a face to associate with my name. I think that's a fine idea but what's good for the goose should be good for the gander. That means I'd like to have a photo of each of you too to

include with your future letters or comments. Not required of course, but if you think of it, please pass along a headshot that I can use in future issues.

Thanks.

### Other comments included:

*"This is excellent! Just what we need for our CDLs! Hopefully this will aid them in gaining more members for their "team". It might also reach out to other members who may wish to become a CDL. I would consider adding this to your webpage on the CA Website."* **Helen Zajac, Region VIII Vice President**

*"I like the format of the newsletter. Once a month is good when there are new bills introduced or some kind of legislative action."* **Diane Zaha, CDL Ch**

*"I'm not a CDL, but I will enjoy receiving your ongoing, very informational, newsletter."* **Dottie Schmidt, District VI Vice President**

*"Please keep it short. I tend to fall asleep from boredom after three minutes."* **Bob Boucher, National Legislation Committee**

I think we're on the right track.

Cheers,  
Steve Walter

## Grassroots Outreach Month - a post-game analysis

August is the month for Congress to escape the heat & humidity of DC and most members spend at least some of the break meeting with constituents in their home districts. NARFE astutely chose the month as Grassroots Outreach Month to encourage CDLs and members to meet with their Representatives and bring them up to speed on NARFE's high priority legislation. So far, I've received reports from 8 chapters of meetings that

## National Legislation Committee

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East Palo Alto
- Dist VI - JEANETTE SCHMIDT  
NEVADA CITY
- Dist VII - ROBERT BOUCHER  
NAPA
- Dist VIII - RANDALL SCOTT  
ROSAMOND

## **NARFE is on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn**

- **On Facebook, the username is [NARFE National Headquarters](#)**
- **The Twitter handle is [@narfehq](#)**
- **NARFE's LinkedIn page is [NARFE](#).**

have been arranged so far this month. There is still about a week to go before Representatives return to DC after Labor Day. If you haven't done so already, try to arrange a meeting with your Representative or with his District Staff. If you've already done so but don't find your visit on the list below, email me and I'll include a final version in next month's newsletter.

CA District	Congressperson	CDL	Chapter/City	Date of Visit
2	Jared Huffman	Robert Martin	400 - Marin County	27-Aug
5	Mike Thompson	Bob Boucher	281 -Napa County	16-Aug
9	Jerry McNerney	Gaylin Zeigler	1718 - Delta	29-Aug
11	Mark DeSaulnier	Robert Martin	531 - Concord, Mt. Diablo	22-Aug
18	Anna Eshoo	Steve Walter	544 - Redwood City	19-Aug
20	Jimmy Panetta	Forney Lundy	1496 - Salinas	1-Aug
32	Grace Napolitano	Gloria Gandara	388 E San Gabriel Valley	12-Aug
44	Nanette Diaz Barragan	Dennis Niles	2323 - Cominguez Hills	9-Aug

## Social Media -

You probably received an email from NARFE headquarters recently encouraging you to use Social Media more in your interactions with your representatives. To quote from the email:

*"According to a study by the Congressional Research Service, 100 percent of Congress is engaging their constituents on social media. Members of Congress are using social media platforms to communicate, develop constituent legislative agendas, and to expand their reach."*

So two things seem clear:

- 1) Our representatives are on board with Social Media, and
- 2) NARFE headquarters would like us to start engaging them more directly with this technology.

I'm curious how many of us CDLs have and actually use either Facebook or Twitter. I know I have a Facebook account but I only go there occasionally and post to it very rarely. I did have a Twitter account at one time but let it lapse because I never used it and was leery of following anybody because of the time it would take away from other things I'm doing. I may be a Neanderthal but I find email and texting from my phone is all the technology I need to stay in touch. But what do you think?

If you use them, let me know your experiences with Facebook and Twitter - and any other Social Media you might know about. It's a brave new world out there and especially with the 2020 elections coming up fast, this is something we all may need to get involved with.

I have a feeling this is a subject we'll be returning to in coming newsletters. If you have a viewpoint you'd like to share, send me an email and I'll print it in the next issue and we can see where this goes.

## WEP & GPO reform

### Updated Issue Brief on new WEP & GPO legislation

I recently received an email from Helen Zajac, our District VIII Vice President, to point out that NARFE has responded to the new WEP & GPO legislation with an updated Issue Brief. I wanted to share Helen's view about the opportunity this new legislation may afford those of us interested in reforming, if not eliminating the WEP and GPO. This is something you make your legislative chairs aware of, not to mention your local representative, if you haven't already:

*Steve - Not sure if you are aware, but there is a new issue brief on the website about WEP & GPO, (also attached). Maybe a little late for "Advocacy Month", however, it may be of interest to the Legislative Officers in each Chapter. I know we have been working on this effort forever, and while we have had great support in the Congress, it never comes out of Committee. The Congressmen we have asked, have told us that they do not hear from their constituents, as we heard again this year. Maybe, with the new bill in Congress, we can get our members excited about this issue, so they will contact their Congressmen? Just a thought. - Helen*

The full Issue Brief is titled **The Social Security Offsets - WEP & GPO** and can be found under the Advocacy Tab of NARFE's Home page. Or just copy the following into your browser:

<https://www.narfe.org/legislation/?fa=viewArticle&id=2843>

## CDL business

### NARFE NEWSLINE Coming

A reminder that both NARFE's Legislative Hotline and NARFE's NewsWatch are about to go away. In September NARFE will introduce the new NARFE NewsLine, which will feature the best of both publications in one streamlined e-newsletter. NARFE NewsLine will deliver breaking and key federal benefits news and information from NARFE and media sources around the country. The e-newsletter will also provide useful information about jobs, health care and travel topics of interest to the federal community.

NewsLine will be delivered to email inboxes every Tuesday via email. Look for it!

