

## NARFE'S LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### 115<sup>TH</sup> Congress Midterm (2017 Review)

► **Federal employees and retirees faced very real and serious threats to their earned pay and benefits in 2017.** In response, NARFE's legislative priority was to defeat those threatening proposals. We also worked to advance legislative improvements for NARFE members as the landscape allowed. Here are the highlights of the Association's accomplishments thus far in the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress (2017-2018).

► **Thwarted ALL attempts by Congress and the president to cut the earned pay and benefits of federal employees and retirees.**

- President Trump's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Proposal called for at least \$149 billion in cuts to earned retirement benefits for current and former federal employees.

- The House of Representatives passed a budget resolution that would have required \$32 billion in cuts to federal retirement benefits, to offset, in part, the cost of a major tax overhaul. NARFE worked tirelessly to oppose the provision requiring such cuts.

- NARFE members, officers and lobbyists worked tirelessly to oppose any cuts to the earned pay and benefits of federal employees and retirees. Despite threats from many angles, none of the provisions in the president's budget or the \$32 billion in cuts were signed into law.

► **Protected postal retirees' health benefits.**

- The House Oversight and Government Reform Committee approved postal reform legislation, H.R. 756, that would require all current postal retirees and their spouses to enroll in Medicare or forfeit their earned retiree health benefits coverage through FEHB.

- This removes the postal retiree's choice as to whether to incur significant additional premium costs for additional coverage.
- By adding a new condition to the receipt of health benefits in retirement, the bill would break a basic promise and precedent not to change retiree benefits after retirement.

- NARFE opposed the provisions and sought to amend the bill to remove them. Despite efforts to advance the bill through Congress, its progress stalled, largely due to the Medicare provisions. Notably, a year-end push to include the bill in a larger legislative vehicle failed.

► **Helped provide more flexible withdrawal options for TSP participants, by supporting legislation giving them more control over their own retirement savings.**

- The president signed the NARFE-endorsed TSP Modernization Act into law, PL 115-84, on November 17, 2017. The law does the following:

- Allows multiple, partial post-separation withdrawals, which individuals can time to their individual needs.
- Permits multiple, age-based withdrawals for participants who are still working and are older than age 59-1/2, and subsequent post-separation partial withdrawals.
- Provides greater flexibility for those receiving periodic payments by: (i) allowing the election of quarterly or annual payments; (ii) allowing periodic withdrawals to be changed at any point during the year; (iii) allowing periodic payments to be stopped while leaving the account balance in the TSP; and (iv) permitting the purchase of an annuity or a partial withdrawal while in periodic payment status.
- Eliminates the withdrawal election deadline.

### *Threats to Your Benefits Are Real.*

### *Here's What NARFE Has Done for You*

► **Thwarted ALL attempts by Congress to cut the earned pay and benefits of federal employees and retirees.**

- The House of Representatives' FY2016 budget resolution contained eight provisions totaling \$318 billion in cuts to the federal community. So far, none have been implemented.

- The Senate failed in its attempt to pay for highway improvements on the back of the federal community.

- A two-year budget agreement increased spending by \$80 billion without offsets to the federal community.

► **Successfully prevented a disproportionate and unfair increase in Medicare premiums.**

- No COLA in 2016 meant millions of Medicare enrollees not held harmless would have faced premium increases of 52 percent unless Congress or the administration took action. NARFE raised the alarm, and lobbying efforts and messages from thousands of NARFE members forced a compromise fix to significantly reduce the increase.

► **Worked to protect and inform NARFE members following the data breaches at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM).**

- Since OPM's announcement of two data breaches, NARFE has maintained constant communication with OPM officials to ensure that NARFE members have the information they need to protect their financial well-being.

► **Worked to increase identity theft protection provided to individuals impacted by the data breaches at OPM.**

- Pressure from NARFE increased identity theft protection for all affected by the OPM data breach to 10 years of coverage.

► **NARFE actively looks out for your best interests.**

Our influence with congressional leaders is backed by hundreds of thousands of NARFE members. Whether we are testifying before Congress on nationally elevated news or meeting one-on-one with officials to promote the future wellbeing of federal workers, **NARFE represents you** and the millions of federal employees who count on us to keep their future safe and secure.

## NARFE Fights for YOUR Benefits.



**Tireless Advocacy**

**Trusted Advice**

**For the Federal Community**

## ***NARFE Is Your Legislative Voice***

The legislative program of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association is advanced in Congress by a dedicated team of legislative specialists and effective lobbyists who are backed by a strong network of grassroots activists in every state and congressional district.

As a NARFE member, your voice adds strength to the messages we take to Capitol Hill and fortifies our national outreach.

## ***NARFE is your Information Resource***

Published monthly, NARFE magazine delivers in-depth coverage of issues that affect the federal community. It offers timely, accurate, clear and actionable information and insight on changes to your benefits and how you will be affected. You get comprehensive reviews of legislation and NARFE's progress, as well as answers to federal benefits, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs), financial planning tips and more.

Need help? NARFE's staff of federal benefits specialists is on hand to unravel regulations and provide clear guidance on complex issues for both active and retired employees.

***NARFE is the only organization solely dedicated to protecting and preserving the pay and benefits of all federal workers and retirees.***

## **NARFE Member Benefits**

*Protection of your earned benefits.*

*Vital Information.*

*Critical questions answered.*

- ***Powerful representation and advocacy before Congress, the Office of Personnel Management, and the White House***
- ***NARFE magazine, the prime source of information and guidance on critical legislation and benefit issues and updates***
- ***Members-only website access to the latest federal news and interactive Legislative Action Center***
- ***Access to a team of federal benefits specialists for answers to complex concerns***
- ***NEW member-only access to professionally presented webinars and learning opportunities on federal benefits in the NARFE Federal Benefits Institute***
- ***Legislative Alerts on congressional business directly impacting the federal community***
- ***Scholarship and disaster-relief grant qualification***
- ***Members-only discounts on travel, health services, insurance and more***

***Renew your membership today!***

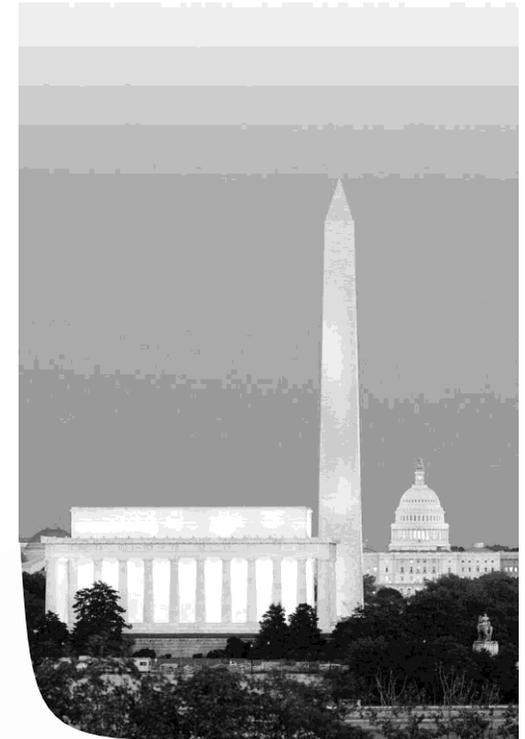
Call 800-456-8410

***Not a member? Join NARFE today!***

Call 800-456-8410 or go to [www.narfe.org](http://www.narfe.org)

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**LOOK AT WHAT  
NARFE HAS DONE  
FOR YOU *LATELY***



**NARFE**

National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association