



Meetings with Congressional Offices – Know Before You Go Checklist

After scheduling a meeting with your legislator's office, use this checklist to prepare for the meeting and learn more about your legislator's position on NARFE issues. Most of this information can be found via our [Legislative Action Center](#), the state-specific "[At a Glance](#)" document or at www.congress.gov. If you need assistance finding the information in this checklist, please contact the NARFE Legislative staff at leg@narfe.org or 703-838-7760, ext. 201.

District/State Information (refer to the state-specific [At a Glance](#) document)

- How many federal employees and annuitants are in the district? In the state?
- Is the federal government one of the biggest employers in your district/state? What are the biggest federal agencies in your district/state and can you talk about the work they do?

Votes and Cosponsorships

- What is your Representative's or Senators' [overall voting record](#) with NARFE? Review their recent votes on NARFE issues to get a sense of their perception of federal employees and retirees.
- How did your Representative [vote](#) on H.Con.Res. 27, the fiscal year 2016 House Budget Resolution (NARFE opposed this legislation)? How did your Senators [vote](#) on S.Con.Res. 11, the fiscal year 2016 Senate Budget Resolution (NARFE opposed this legislation)? (These pieces of legislation contained \$318 billion in cuts to the federal community.)
- With no cost-of-living adjustment in 2016, approximately 30 percent of Medicare Part B beneficiaries were facing a 52 percent premium increase, while the remaining beneficiaries would be "held harmless" and maintain the same premiums as in 2015. Legislation was introduced to keep everybody "held harmless" in 2016. Was your Representative and/or Senators co-sponsor(s) of [H.R. 3696](#) or [S. 2148](#)?
- H.R. 3696 and S. 2148 were not voted on because a compromise regarding Medicare Part B premiums was included in a two-year budget agreement. NARFE supported the agreement because, in addition to the Medicare compromise, it included an extension of the debt ceiling, increased sequestration spending caps by \$80 billion and established spending levels for the next two years – all without attacking federal employees or retirees. The agreement was voted on in two pieces of legislation. How did your [Representative](#) and [Senators](#) vote on H.R. 2029, the portion of the compromise that increased sequestration spending caps and established the spending levels. How did your [Representative](#) and [Senators](#) vote on H.R. 1314, the portion of the agreement that included the Medicare compromise and the increase in the debt ceiling.



- Are either of your Senators or Representative a cosponsor of S. 1651 or H.R. 973, a bill to repeal GPO and WEP (NARFE supports this legislation)? If they are not, respectfully ask for their cosponsorship. Were your Senators or Representative cosponsors of S. 896 or H.R. 1795, the Social Security Fairness Act of 2013 (introduced in the 113th Congress), to repeal GPO and WEP? If they were, respectfully ask your Senators or Representative for their cosponsorship of S. 1651 or H.R. 973 if they are not already.
- Is your Representative a cosponsor of [H.R. 711](#), a bill to amend the WEP penalty (NARFE supports this legislation)? If they are not, respectfully ask for their cosponsorship.
- Are either of your Senators or Representative a cosponsor of [S. 2051](#) or [H.R. 5714](#), bills to remove the U.S. Postal Service. NARFE opposes both pieces of legislation because they require Medicare enrollment for current postal retirees and their spouses. Additionally, NARFE opposes the Senate bill because of provisions that would increase health care costs for postal retirees and reduce workers' compensation benefits for injured or disabled federal employees.

Chained CPI

- Have your Senators or Representative made any statements regarding the Chained CPI?
- How much will you lose over time if the Chained CPI is enacted? (use NARFE's [Chained CPI Calculator](#).)
- The Chained CPI was included in recent Republican Study Committee budgets. Did your member vote in support of these budgets? Is your Representative a member of the [Republican Study Committee](#)?

Member of Congress Background

- Do your Senators or Representative sit on a committee with jurisdiction over NARFE issues? House committees include: Budget, Oversight and Government Reform, and Ways and Means. Senate committees include: Budget, Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, and Finance.
- Have your Senators or Representative served in public service before being elected to Congress? Review their biography before going.
- Have your Senators or Representative made any public comments about federal employees, or public servants in general? Do an online and media search to get a sense of their overall feelings towards government employees.