

**Richard G. Thissen**  
*National President*



**Jon Dowie**  
*National Secretary/Treasurer*

March 24, 2015

U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the five million federal employees and annuitants represented by the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), I urge you to oppose the House Fiscal Year 2016 Budget Resolution, H.Con.Res. 27, because of its targeted and prejudicial attacks on federal employees and retirees. Instead, I ask for your support of the alternative budget resolution offered by the House Budget Committee minority members, which does not disproportionately target the federal community.

The House budget resolution offered by Budget Chairman Tom Price, R-GA, takes aim at federal and postal employees and retirees in a manner far beyond the proposals of both his predecessor and the Simpson-Bowles Fiscal Commission. Exacting another \$318 billion from a constituency that already has contributed more than \$120 billion to deficit reduction is unconscionable.

This budget is nothing short of an attack on effective government. Specifically, NARFE opposes: converting the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) into a voucher program in a race to the bottom; increasing the contributions of federal employees toward their retirement without any corresponding benefit increase; reducing the return on the Thrift Savings Plan G Fund so that growth fails even to keep up with inflation; and eliminating the defined benefit retirement program, a critical component of federal civil service compensation. NARFE also opposes service cuts and benefit reductions envisioned for the U.S. Postal Service as part of H.Con.Res. 27.

NARFE does not take these proposals lightly. Aside from having a direct impact on federal and postal employees and retirees, the American people, who rely on government to keep our country safe, keep criminals off our street, care for our veterans and warn of us impending natural disasters, undoubtedly will feel the effects of this misguided proposal.

Proponents will point to the Simpson-Bowles Fiscal Commission as the author of many of the proposals contained in the budget. The Fiscal Commission report, however, was founded on the notion of shared sacrifice. Asking those who have already given \$120 billion toward deficit reduction to sacrifice another \$318 billion is not shared sacrifice. It is a targeted attack on those whose job it is to carry out the laws that Congress enacts.

This nation deserves a federal government that can best defend America at home and abroad, protect the health and wellbeing of its citizens, and deliver critical services and breakthrough

**National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association**

[www.NARFE.org](http://www.NARFE.org) | 606 N. Washington Street, Alexandria, VA 22314 | **phone** 703-838-7760 | **fax** 703-838-7785

**Protect America's Heartbeat**



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research for which there is no “second-best.” The House Budget Resolution would threaten our ability to perform these vital functions. NARFE urges you to vote "NO" vote on H.Con.Res. 27 and vote “YES” on the alternative budget to be offered as an amendment by Rep. Chris Van Hollen, D-MD.

Thank you for considering NARFE’s views. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact NARFE’s Legislative Director Jessica Klement at [jklement@narfe.org](mailto:jklement@narfe.org) or 703-838-7760.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Thissen  
National President

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