



NARFE CALL SCRIPT

ISSUE BRIEF

The House Budget Committee approved its 2018 fiscal year budget resolution, which would require at least \$32 billion in cuts to the earned pay and benefits of federal employees and retirees. It is crucial to make your voice heard now, to ensure that this budget resolution does not pass the full House of Representatives.

Call your representative and ask them to oppose the House's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget and its requirements to cut the earned pay and benefits of federal employees and retirees.

If passed, the budget resolution would require the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee to come up with at least \$32 billion in cuts from federal retirement or health benefits. The Budget Committee has recommended a 'retirement tax' on federal employees – forcing them to pay more towards their retirement without any additional benefit. They have also recommended eliminating the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) Annuity Supplement. Other options for cuts required to reach the \$32 billion figure include reductions or elimination of cost-of-living adjustments for current and future retirees, or reducing the rate of return on the Thrift Savings Plan's G Fund.

Worse yet, the budget resolution would tie these cuts to political must-pass tax reform legislation. **That's why now is the time to act – if the House passes this budget, defeating these cuts becomes much more difficult in the future.**

Call your member of Congress and tell them to oppose the House's Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Resolution!

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Calling Capitol Hill is easy and only takes a few minutes. Follow these simple instructions:

Step 1: Call the U.S. Capitol, using NARFE's toll-free number 1-866-220-0044. Once you reach the Capitol switchboard, you will be asked whether you would like to be connected with your senator (press 1), or representative (press 2). You will want to talk to your representative about the House Budget, so please press 2. You will be asked to enter your ZIP code. You can then confirm who you would like to be connected with or you can ask the operator to connect you to your legislator's office. (Find your representative [here](#).)

Step 2: Politely greet the staff person who answers the phone. Give your name and address to let them know you are a constituent. Then say [brackets indicate that you should choose the appropriate language]:

- I am calling to ask [Representative X] to oppose the House Budget for fiscal year 2018.
- The FY18 Budget would require \$32 billion in cuts from earned federal retirement or health benefits.



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- I worked hard over [X] years to earn my annuity and health benefits. They are not a gift. Changing the deal now fails to honor the commitment made to me when I started serving.
- I ask the representative to reject any House budget that would require cuts to federal pay or retirement or health benefits.

Thank you.

Please ask your friends, family, neighbors and fellow federal employees and retirees to join you in calling Congress. If we're going to be successful in our efforts, it is vital that Congress hears from as many people as possible.

If you have any questions, please contact NARFE's Legislative Department at leg@narfe.org.

Thank you,
NARFE's Legislative Department