

Monthly Legislative Update for NARFE Chapters – June 2014

NARFE's legislative department is providing monthly updates to Chapter leaders for newsletter inclusion and meeting information, as you see fit. As we enter the summer campaign season, these are the issues that headquarters are watching on Capitol Hill.

Postal Reform

- A vote by the full Senate has not been scheduled. Negotiations over the legislation are ongoing and it is unclear as to if or when a vote will be scheduled. NARFE opposes the legislation and is working to make changes before it reaches the Senate floor.
- NARFE members can send an e-mail to their Senators asking them to oppose the Senate postal legislation through NARFE's [Legislative Action Center](#).
- On May 21, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee passed Chairman Darrell Issa's (R-CA) latest version of postal reform legislation. H.R. 4670, the Secure Delivery for America Act of 2014, passed the committee along partisan lines. Video of the mark-up is available [online](#). NARFE opposes the legislation.
 - The Federal Workforce, US Postal Service and Census Subcommittee held a hearing titled "Examining Innovative Postal Products" for the 21st Century on May 22. Video and copies of the testimony is available on the House Oversight and Government Reform's [website](#).
 - The legislation is not expected to move beyond the committee level as any postal reform legislation is likely to be based on the Senate Postal Reform legislation.

Re-Employed Annuitants

- The law that allowed for the re-employment of annuitants is set to expire in October. Congressman Gerry Connolly (D-VA) introduced an amendment to the FY15 National Defense Authorization Act to extend the law another five years.
- The amendment passed in the House on May 22.
- The legislation allows agencies to hire retirees on a limited, part-time basis without a reduction in their annuity.
- NARFE's press release on House passage is available [online](#).

Federal Adjustment of Income Rates (FAIR) Act

- Senators Brian Schatz (D-HI) and Ben Cardin (D-MD) introduced S. 2397 on May 22. The legislation would provide a 3.3% pay increase in 2015 for federal employees.
- The legislation is companion legislation to H.R. 4306, introduced by Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-VA).
- Send a letter to your legislators asking them to cosponsor these bills using the [Legislative Action Center](#).

Workforce Morale Hearing

- On May 6, Senator Jon Tester (D-MT), who chairs the Senate Subcommittee on the Efficiency and Effectiveness of Federal Programs and the Federal Workforce, held a hearing on federal employee morale.
- NARFE issued a press [statement](#) in advance of the hearing.

Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW)

- NARFE members from across the country had over 40 letters to the editor published in recognition of PSRW.

Congressional Schedule (can be changed)

- The House is scheduled to be on recess June 2 – Jun 6
- The House and Senate are scheduled to be on recess June 30 – July 4
- The House and Senate are scheduled to be on recess August 4 – September 5