

July 19, 2021

Committee on Oversight and Reform
2157 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairwoman Maloney, Ranking Member Comer and members of the House Committee on Oversight and Reform:

On behalf of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE), I write to express NARFE's support for H.R. 564, the Comprehensive Paid Leave for Federal Employees Act.

The bill would provide all federal employees, including U.S. Postal Service employees, up to 12 weeks paid family and medical leave in any 12-month period for the care of an ill spouse, child or parent; to deal with a serious personal medical condition; or in response to a spouse, child or parent who has been called to active-duty military service. Our nation needs a highly qualified and effective workforce serving the American people. This bill enables the federal government to attract top talent while simultaneously leading in family-friendly workforce practices.

Granting paid family and medical leave allows federal employees to receive and provide necessary care without fear of being unable to support their families financially. Passing H.R. 564 corrects this longstanding concern and shows that the federal government is serving as a leader on this critical benefits topic.

Additionally, instituting paid family and medical leave would strengthen the federal government's ability to recruit and retain a talented federal workforce. Existing federal sick and annual leave benefits may not meet the needs of those dealing with a serious medical condition affecting themselves or a family member. Expanding paid leave for federal workers to cover these situations will improve the federal government's ability to retain valuable human capital and attract the next generation of workers.

For these reasons, I urge all members of the committee to support the Comprehensive Paid Leave for Federal Employees Act. Thank you for the consideration of our views. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact NARFE Staff Vice President for Policy and Programs Jessica Klement at jklement@narfe.org.

Sincerely,



Ken Thomas
National President