

## In-Person or Virtual Meeting Talking Points: WEP/GPO

The talking points below should serve as a guide for NARFE members preparing for in-person meetings with members of Congress and their staff. **This document is not intended to be handed out.** Before your meeting, please be sure to fill in the brackets with the relevant information. You can find issue briefs that you may leave with legislators and their staff on NARFE's [website](#).

### Introductory Talking Points

- I am a retired federal employee, having worked for [AGENCY] over [NUMBER OF YEARS] years, and a member of the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association (NARFE).
- As a long-serving federal employee, I earned my pay, annuity and health benefits. [Discuss what you did over the course of your career in public service and how it helped other Americans, particularly those in your state.]
- We are here today to discuss an issue that are important to me and other federal retirees:  
**Advancing the Social Security Fairness Act, H.R 82**

### The Social Security Fairness Act, H.R. 82

#### *House of Representatives*

Once you've addressed the introductory talking points, focus on the issues below.

### Repeal of the WEP and GPO:

- **If your lawmaker is already a cosponsor of the bill**, please thank him/her for doing so and ask that he/she support a discharge petition to bring the Social Security Fairness Act, H.R. 82, to the floor for a vote.
- **If your lawmaker is NOT a cosponsor** of the bill, please urge that he/she cosponsor the bill **and** support a discharge petition to bring the Social Security Fairness Act, H.R. 82, to the floor for a vote.
- The Social Security Fairness Act, [H.R. 82](#) would fully repeal both the WEP and GPO.
- The Windfall Elimination Provision reduces the Social Security benefits of local, state and federal retirees who worked in Social Security-covered employment and who also receive a government annuity from their non-Social Security covered government employment. As of December 2023, about 2 million Social Security beneficiaries across the country and about \_\_\_\_\_ beneficiaries in [STATE] are impacted by the WEP. [Please consult NARFE's [WEP state-by-state breakdown](#) to find how many people in your state are impacted.]
- The GPO prevents government retirees who receive a federal annuity from collecting full Social Security benefits otherwise owed to them based on jobs their spouses held in the private sector. In this situation, Social Security spousal or survivor benefits are reduced by two-thirds of the federal retiree's government annuity. As of December 2023, the GPO affects more than 745,679 beneficiaries and about \_\_\_\_\_ beneficiaries in [STATE] are impacted by the GPO. [Please consult NARFE's [GPO state-by-state breakdown](#) to find how many people in your state are impacted.]
- Please support H.R. 82 by signing a discharge petition. With 323 total cosponsors, and continuing committee inaction, now is the time to demand a floor vote. The level of bipartisanship and attention to this issue reflects the urgent need to advance this legislation for a just future for hardworking federal retirees across the nation.

*Continued on pg. 2*

**The Social Security Fairness Act, S. 597***The Senate*

[Thank the member for supporting, or urge cosponsorship]

*Once you've addressed the introductory talking points, focus on the issues below.*

**Repeal of the WEP and GPO:**

- **If your lawmaker is already a cosponsor** of the bill, please thank him/her for doing so and ask that he/she work with committee and congressional leadership to move the bill through the legislative process.
- **If your lawmaker is NOT a cosponsor** of the bill, please urge that he/she cosponsor the bill **and** work with the Senate Finance committee for a mark-up to move the bill through the legislative process.
- The Social Security Fairness Act, [S. 597](#) would fully repeal both the WEP and GPO.
- The Windfall Elimination Provision reduces the Social Security benefits of local, state and federal retirees who worked in Social Security-covered employment and who also receive a government annuity from their non-Social Security covered government employment. As of December 2023, about 2 million Social Security beneficiaries across the country and about \_\_\_\_\_ beneficiaries in [STATE] are impacted by the WEP. [Please consult NARFE's [WEP state-by-state breakdown](#) to find how many people in your state are impacted.]
- The GPO prevents government retirees who receive a federal annuity from collecting full Social Security benefits otherwise owed to them based on jobs their spouses held in the private sector. In this situation, Social Security spousal or survivor benefits are reduced by two-thirds of the federal retiree's government annuity. As of December 2023, the GPO affects more than 745,679 beneficiaries and about \_\_\_\_\_ beneficiaries in [STATE] are impacted by the GPO. [Please consult NARFE's [GPO state-by-state breakdown](#) to find how many people in your state are impacted.]
- Please cosponsor S. 597 to repeal these unfair provisions that reduce millions of retirees' earned benefits and work with committee and congressional leadership to advance the bill. **OR** Thank you for cosponsoring S. 597 to repeal these unfair provisions that reduce millions of retirees' earned benefits. I kindly ask that you work with the Senate Finance committee and congressional leadership to advance the bill.