



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Affiliated with the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, AFL-CIO
805 15th Street, NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20005 • p:(202) 216-4420 • f:(202) 898-1861

WILLIAM R. DOUGAN
National President

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WILLIAM D. FENAUGHTY
National Secretary/Treasurer

Dear Senator,

JOZEF DROZDOWSKI
National Vice President

On behalf of the National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE), and the 100,000 federal employees our union represents throughout the United States and abroad, I strongly urge you to support the conference report of the Fiscal Year 2010 Defense Authorization Act.

If enacted, the language in the conference report would greatly improve the lives of hundreds of thousands of federal employees in the Department of Defense (DoD) and throughout the federal government. For federal employees, the greatest development of this report is language that would repeal the failed National Security Personnel System (NSPS). Over the past several years, our union has strongly opposed this highly flawed personnel system. The repeal of NSPS is long overdue, and this action alone will greatly improve morale throughout DoD as well as save hundreds of millions of dollars for the Department.

Also of tremendous importance are provisions that would accomplish the following:

1. Provide federal employees enrolled under the Federal Employee Retirement System (FERS) credit for their unused sick leave upon retirement.
2. Phase out cost of living allowances for federal employees working in Hawaii, Alaska, and other non-foreign U.S. territories, and would phase in locality comparability pay in place of the allowances.
3. Allow former federal employees who receive a federal annuity from other than the Civil Retirement and Disability Fund to retain their annuity if reemployed by DOD.
4. Allow former federal employees under the Federal Employee Retirement System who withdrew their contributions to the retirement trust fund to redeposit their earlier contributions, plus interest, upon reemployment with the federal government.
5. Allow employees under the Civil Service Retirement System to take their highest salary, including their deemed full-time salary for years of part-time work, to be used in computing benefits derived from a pre-1986 salary.

Our union believes that these provisions and the repealing of NSPS are central to improving the lives of countless federal employees and to enhancing the performance of DoD. As such, we fully endorse the conference report and urge you to do the same when the report comes to the Senate floor.

Sincerely,

William R. Dougan
National President

