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EXTENSION OF BILL THAT ALLOWS REHIRING OF ANNUITANTS

Dr. Howard Waterworth, 1st Vice President and Legislative Chair

Congress recently approved a five-year extension of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) (H.R. 3979) for 2015, which gives agencies authority to rehire Federal annuitants without a salary offset.

Some retired Federal employees return to work after retiring and draw an annuity for any number of reasons such as: for additional income, the challenge of contributing to the same or another program activity, boredom at home, interaction with other persons of similar interests, etc. This opportunity has been in effect since 2009 based on the NDAA. It allows reemployment of CSRS and FERS annuitants on a limited basis with receipt of both annuity and salary. Reemployed annuitants may be appointed for up to one year, not to exceed 520 hours within 6 months of retiring, or 1040 hours during any 12-month period, or no more than a total of 3120 hours. NARFE supports it because it gives federal agency heads the authority to rehire annuitants on a limited and part-time basis without salary offset. In a statement by NARFE Past President Beaudoin "This authority helps mitigate the loss of federal employees in the current tsunami and ensures that the government can function effectively while also filling critical gaps and helping to train the next generation of federal managers." The regulations are different for CSRS and FERS annuitants and are complex in that many situations are taken into consideration on a case-by-case basis, such as reason for initial retirement, disabilities, political appointees, effect on existing annuity, and calculating a new annuity.

An annuity will stop for reemployed CSRS retirees if one is a disabled annuitant and if OPM has found it to be restored to earning capacity, if your annuity is based on

an involuntary separation or for retired Presidential appointees.

For non-disabled annuitants the annuity not does stop when reemployed. And when reemployment ends, your prior retirement benefit has no impact on your new retirement benefit, which will be computed as though you are retiring for the first time, so it may be increased. But pay will be reduced by the amount of annuity paid for the period worked.

Reemployment may increase your retirement and death benefits. As a reemployed annuitant you can earn either a supplemental annuity that is added on to your present annuity or a re-determined annuity. Intermittent service cannot be counted in establishing eligibility for a supplemental annuity. Details are available from the WEB at: OPM re-hired annuitants.

One can also return to work as a **Contract Employee of a Company**: Annuitants may work in the same or similar government job by working for a private contractor Company. The Company typically provides salary and benefits and the parties sign an agreement regarding salary, etc. The retiree is no longer a federal employee and by working for a contractor it has no affect on ones' federal annuity. Working for a contractor can benefit CSRS retirees by accumulating at least 40 quarters to qualify for Social Security checks.

Personal Services Contractor: Agencies initiate an agreement with a recent retiree to perform specific functions by listing specific tasks and compensation and for a defined period of time. This annuitant is not considered a federal employee and payment does not affect his/her federal annuity payments. No benefits are included. These employees are considered self employed.

PAST CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Chapter 1122

Robert Doyle
Robert F. Haas
John Fleming

Chapter 2146

Irwin Neveleff
Marty Eiband
Emma E. Barnett

Chapter 264

Tom LoJacono

Total Chapter Membership January

672



Chapter Corner

Chapter 1122 welcomes the following reinstated members thru January:

Reinstated Member:

Wesley Troup

New, reinstated, transferred or prospective members: your attendance would be greatly appreciated at the monthly meetings. Come hear interesting speakers, learn more about NARFE, meet and socialize with fellow chapter members. Bring a neighbor, friend, co-worker, family member, active Fed or retired Fed to the meeting with you; they are always welcome.

We wish all sick and shut-in members a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing you soon at the monthly meetings.

To February Birthday Members
"Happy Birthday"
from all of us!

The New Year has started and we are looking to hear from you. Just a few hours of your time each month to devote to the workings of the Chapter. Volunteers are still needed for vacant positions which are; Chaplain, Program Chair, Historian and NARFE-PAC Chair. Anyone with web site experience is also needed to help develop the chapter's web page. Volunteer to serve today. You are needed!

There are two very important NARFE sessions coming up, In **March** the **Legislative Conference in Arlington, VA** and in **April** the **State Convention in Ocean City, MD**. All members are encouraged to attend these events See page 3 for details of the March legislative conference.

Anyone wishing to attend the convention in April please contact **Richard Bennof** at bennof4skins@aol.com for information on registration and hotel reservations. Deadline for registration is **April 5** and Hotel reservations must be made by **March 27**.

In Memoriam
It is with sadness that we extend
condolences to the family and
friends of:
Mary Bubeck
Helen Keppler

The following is an excerpt from the Winter issue of the Maryland Federation Newsletter written by Evelyn Kirby, Region II Vice President, on how our dues help to fund our mission:

Money Matters!

MISSION: Our vision is to be recognized as the association devoted exclusively to serving and protecting the earned entitlements, rights and benefits of all federal retirees, employees and survivors.

DUES: They drive our mission. Dues allow us to have topnotch lobbyists at HQ who know the ropes on Capitol Hill and which legislators to approach. They give us funds to develop media campaigns and legislative toolkits. They help finance member benefits services, information sharing and technical support. Dues help fund Federation-wide support of chapter needs for training, information support, recruitment drives, and more that advance our mission

MAGAZINE: Dues pay for the monthly award-winning magazine. The magazine is a fantastic public relations and recruitment tool for getting the value, message and brand name of NARFE recognized.

NON-DUES REVENUE: This generous voluntary giving comes from 50/50s, raffles, cake 'sales', free-will donation jars, sponsorships by 'friends' and the like. This is how many members support Alzheimer's Research, charities, travel or other costs for conventions, special celebrations of non-mission events, e.g. someone's birthday or for plain old 'fun and games'. This type of income is used in worthy ways that reflect well on NARFE.

HQ FUNDRAISERS: Dues pay only two-thirds of our expenses—even though we are streamlining and cutting costs as we can. HQ periodically launches drives, which net voluntary contributions. These often come with 'thank you' items like calendars and note cards. Some fundraisers simply seek support—beyond dues—to help pay for special campaigns or initiatives. These campaigns are often directed at the media, legislators, and/or others so they have the facts about Federal civilian employees and retirees and issues impacting them. The campaigns also help us attract new members via special recruitment efforts. Donations, in any amount, help keep us strong. Fundraiser proceeds also showcase and spread the brand name of NARFE and what it stands for—which is a very good thing.

NARFE-PAC: These voluntary, non tax-deductible donations help draw attention to our legislative concerns. They help support those whose voting records and/or convictions show value for Federal service, for sustaining its quality and for keeping promises made to it. PAC funds allow us access to national level and grassroots events. At these we can be face-to-face in special settings, e.g. a breakfast, reception or BBQ, with legislators, candidates and their staffs. This helps build effective relationships, and gives us a stronger legislative voice. Sorry to say, recent donations show a decline. This is NOT good. Every time NARFE members gather or read a newsletter, attention should be drawn to making PAC contributions.

NARFE Legislative Accomplishments during 2014

NARFE headquarters summarized its legislative accomplishments with the 113 Congress, which adjourned in December via its GEMS email system. Among the issues are the following:

1. NARFE was able to prevent several attempts to enact legislation that would be detrimental for federal employees, annuitants and their families. The report stated that "sometimes holding back legislation is a major victory."
2. NARFE prevented any damaging alterations to current retirees' annuities, including opposing the proposed switch to the Chained CPI.
3. NARFE stopped proposals to increase retirement contributions for active employees, eliminate the defined-benefit pension of the FERS retirement system for new hires, and end the FERS annuity supplement.
4. NARFE successfully opposed provisions in the Senate postal reform bill, including proposed changes to FEHBP requirements that USPS retirees enroll in Medicare and changes to the FECA program.
5. The House voted unanimously to provide back pay to federal employees furloughed during the October 2013 government shutdown.
6. NARFE worked to ensure that Capitol Hill staff maintained benefits in the Health Insurance Marketplace, including preserving their employee contribution, when a provision in the ACA required that they leave FEHBP.
7. NARFE supported the automatic COLA adjustment for CSRS & FERS annuitants which is 1.7%.

The President's request for a 1% increase for current employees went into effect with the first pay period in 2015. With the end of the 113th Congress, all legislation that did not pass both houses has expired which means this legislation will have to be reintroduced and go thru the legislative process in the next Congress.

NARFE Legislative Training Conference - Register Now

- **NARFE's Legislative Training Conference** will be held **March 14 – 17, 2015** at the Renaissance Arlington Capital View Hotel. The three-day conference includes training opportunities, national speakers, and the opportunity to network with fellow NARFE grass-roots activists. The conference culminates in a visit to Capitol Hill, where you will take your new skills and meet with your legislators and their staff.
- Online Registration is available **now**. The \$175 registration fee includes 6 meals, all of your training materials and transportation to and from Capitol Hill on March 17.
- Hotel registration is available **online**. NARFE negotiated a reduced rate of \$175 a night, plus fees and taxes.

Registration must be received by February 3, 2015.

For further information see the January 2015 issue of the narfe magazine, pages 12 and 13 or contact Richard Bennof at bennof4skins@aol.com.

2015 NARFE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The scholarship fund is open to the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren of NARFE members. The program starts February 1 and will close April 24, 2015. Applications will appear in the February and March issues of *narfe* magazine. As of February 1, the application also can be downloaded from the NARFE website by going to www.narfe.org and clicking on the Scholarship Program graphic in the rotating display on the home page.

Legislation Introduced to Provide a 3.8% Raise for Feds

In mid January, Rep. Gerald E. Connolly, D-VA, introduced H.R. 304, the Federal Adjustment of Income Rates (FAIR) Act, which will provide federal employees with a 3.8 percent pay raise in 2016. Sens. Brian Schatz, D-HI, and Benjamin L. Cardin, D-MD, introduced the companion bill, S. 164, in the Senate. The legislation comes on the heels of a 1 percent raise for federal employees in each of the past two years, preceded by a three-year pay freeze. With the wage gap expanding between private- and public-sector jobs, a 3.8 percent raise will better allow the federal government to stay competitive and attract the best workers. The Federal-Postal Coalition, which NARFE chairs, sent letters of support to Connolly and Schatz, which can be found on the NARFE [website](http://www.narfe.org).

Presidential Quote in Observance of Presidents' Day

*"Don't
interfere with
anything
in the
Constitution.
That must be
maintained,
for it is
the only
safeguard of
our liberties."*

**Abraham Lincoln
U.S. President
1861 - 1865**



What's Your EMail Address?

If you are not currently receiving the newsletter monthly by email and you would like to -- we probably don't have your correct email address. Please update your email address by notifying Membership Chairperson Elaine Cameron: elainecameron@aol.com

Upcoming Newsletters can be viewed on the web site the last week of each month at www.mdnarfe.org/chapter1122

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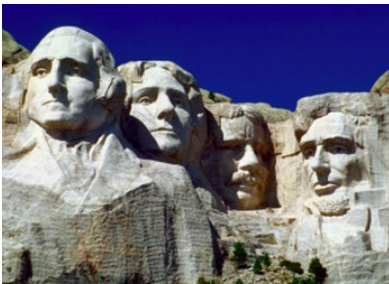


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Lanham, MD 20706

Chapter 1122 Website
www.mdnarfe.org/chapter1122

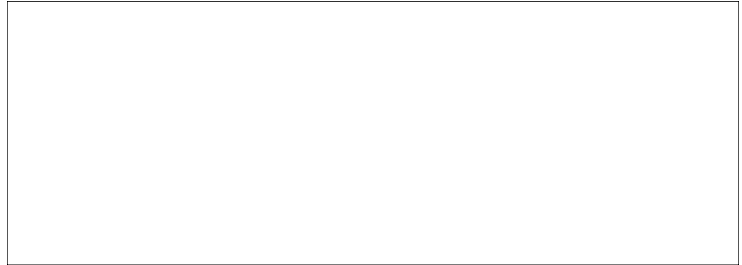
MD Federation Website
www.mdnarfe.org

NARFE National Website



Presidents' Day - February 16

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Upcoming Events

- February 3
Federation Board Meeting
Bowie, MD
- February 11
Chapter Meeting
- February 16
Presidents' Day
- March 14-17
NARFE Legislative Conference
Arlington, VA
- April 26-28
State Convention
Ocean City, MD

NARFE National Headquarters
(Direct Line)
1-703-838-7760

NARFE Sponsored Line
to Congress
1-866-220-0044

To contact Maryland Delegates and
Representatives
Call 301-858-3000
or visit the NARFE Web Site
www.mdnarfe.org

To reach the Governor call
1-800-811-8336
or visit the Web Site
www.gov.state.md.us/mail

CHAPTER 1122 MONTHLY MEETING

Wednesday, February 11, 2015 at 1:30 PM

*Greenbriar Community Center, Terrace Room
7600 Hanover Parkway, Greenbelt, MD 20770*

Call office for directions 301-441-1096 Dial 0



Speaker:

*Lore Rosenthal
Program Coordinator*

*Greenbelt Climate
Action Network.*

*"What Each of Us Can Do
About Climate Change"*



*All Are
Welcome*

*Refreshments
Served*

PLEASE NOTE:

Executive Committee meeting will immediately follow regular meeting

Inclement Weather Notice! When Prince George's County Schools are closed or opening late, the NARFE Chapter 1122 meeting will not be held.