Legislative and PAC Update February, 2025 for Chapter 236 Washington State Federation of NARFE

<u>LEGISLATIVE</u>

- 1. <u>New Emerging Threats Webpage</u> With emerging threats to the federal community arising from executive actions or legislation, from large-scale reductions in the federal workforce that could be implemented in response to Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) recommendations. **Information on the NARFE Advocacy page**.
- 2. The week of 1/13 the **Saving the Civil Service Act, H.R. 492/S. 134**, was reintroduced to block the implementation of Schedule F. This ensured employees are hired and fired based on merit. On 1/20, President Trump issued an executive order reinstating Schedule F. Contact your members of Congress today, and urge them to cosponsor the Saving the Civil Service Act.
- 3. Executive orders (as of 1/28/25)
 - a. Removing merit-based civil service protections.
 - b. Hiring freeze
 - c. Blanket return-to-office directive
 - d. NARFE supports maximizing governmental efficiency and productivity we'll see how that plays out with the new Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE).
 - e. Diversity in the Federal Government de-emphasized.
 - f. NARFE supports improving the federal hiring process to ensure timely hiring of well-qualified and effective individuals.
- 4. Federal Adjustment of Income Rates Act (FAIR Act), H.R.493/S.126, calling for a 4.3% average pay increase for federal employees in 2026 was introduced week of 1/13.
- 5. On January 16, reintroduced the <u>Equal COLA Act, H.R. 491</u>, to provide Federal Employees Retiree System (FERS) employees full COLAs to their federal annuities.
- 6. Status of Legislation
 - a. H.R. 82, Social Security Fairness Act

Became law on 1/25/25. The Social Security Administration's website currently states, "SSA expects that it could take more than one year to adjust benefits and pay all retroactive benefits" owed under the Social Security Fairness Act. 330 cosponsors – Jayapal, Larsen, McMorris Rogers, Strickland.

b. Saving the Civil Service Act, H.R. 492

Introduced in the House on February 14 and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability. DelBene is a cosponsor.

c. Equal COLA Act, H.R. 491.

Introduced in the House on January 16 and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability. DelBene is a cosponsor.

d. Continuing Resolution

On December 20, the U.S. House and Senate passed a second Continuing Resolution (CR; H.R. 10545) extending federal spending and avert a government shutdown through March 14, 2025.

NARFE-PAC Contribution and Disbursement Reports

(As of 1/22/25, QUARTER 8 of 2023-2034)

- 1. WA <u>Contributions</u> from 10 chapters: 247 contributors for \$28,669. National: 10,369 contributors for \$695,585.66.
- 2. *Disbursements* (through December 31, 2024) by congressional district.
 - a. 01 Suzan DelBene D \$7,500
 - b. 02 Rick Larsen D \$5,000

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- c. 03 Marie Gluesenkamp Perez D \$2,500
- d. 04 Dan Newhouse R \$5,000
- e. 05 Michael Baumgartner R \$0
- f. 06 Derek Kilmer D \$4,000
- g. 06 Emily Randall D \$2,500
- h. 07 Pramila Jayapal D \$3,000
- i. 08 Kim Schrier D \$2,000
- j. 09 Adam Smith D \$7,500
- k. 10 Marily Strickland \$1,000
 - \$40,000 total disbursed in WA; \$772,000 nationally.
- American Military Defense PAC \$2,500 Disbursed to Rep. Adam Smith's leadership political action committee.
- Evergreen PAC \$5,000 Disbursed to Rep. Suzan Delbene leadership political action committee.
 - M-PAC \$10,000 Disbursed to Sen. Patty Murray's leadership political action committee.
 - Leadership PAC Total Disbursement: \$279,500
 - Disbursement Total: \$1,261,500

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