



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Affiliated with the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers



NFFE News Article

December 7, 2017

Congress to Feds: Holiday Shutdown? Bah Humbug!

The Congress passed a short term Continuing Resolution (CR) today to keep the government running after the current CR expires Friday. Unfortunately, the new CR expires on Friday, December 22 at midnight. A lapse in funding during the heart of the holiday season would create unnecessary chaos and disruption for the country and for federal families. Undaunted by this holiday dispiriting scenario, House leadership chose the late December date to apply pressure to lawmakers in both parties to forward their political agenda.

What we know:

- The new CR will continue government operations until midnight on Friday, December 22, 2017. At that time, one of three scenarios will unfold: a new CR is passed, a shutdown occurs from a lapse in funding, or an omnibus appropriations bill to fund the rest of FY 2018 passes.
- It is unlikely that both the House and Senate will pass and agree upon an omnibus appropriations bill by December 22. Therefore, an additional CR or a shutdown are the two most likely scenarios.

What NFFE is doing:

1. NFFE continues to push to pass **the Federal Employee Fair Treatment Act (S. 861)** which will ensure that employees who are furloughed or forced to work through the furlough, that all employees will be compensated quickly upon the government opening. Also, it allows employees to take scheduled annual leave and sick leave as needed.
2. NFFE is working hard to protect federal workers through its communications with Congress, insisting that they keep the CR clean and amenable to both parties.
3. NFFE is also campaigning the congress to keep controversial political initiatives separate from funding bills, especially Continuing Resolutions, which serve as a last chance to keep agencies open
4. NFFE will keep its members posted as events progress over the next few weeks

What you can do:

1. Post this memo at your workplace and help spread the word.
2. Go over your personal finances and prepare for the possibility of delayed paychecks.
3. Help NFFE members with access to emergency loans through the Federal Employee Education and Assistance Fund (FEEA), on which NFFE serves on the board of directors. For more information, visit the FEEA website at www.feea.org.
4. **Sign up on the NFFE website and on Facebook @NFFEunion** for the most up to date information.
5. Read the OPM Q&A document regarding shutdown information.