



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

Affiliated with the International Association of Machinists & Aerospace Workers, AFL-CIO

January 29, 2019

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the 120,000 represented members of the National Federation of Federal Employees (NFFE), I am writing regarding the Federal Civilian Workforce Pay Raise Fairness Act of 2019 ((HR 790), legislation sponsored by Virginia Congressman Gerry Connolly that is scheduled for full House consideration this week. After the longest government shutdown in the history of the United States, which impacted some 800,000 federal workers and their families, NFFE is urging you to support pay parity between military and civilian workers by voting in support of this bill.

After three consecutive years of pay freezes, followed by meager across-the-board adjustments, federal workers have seen their incomes decrease by nearly 15% with respect to inflation over the last eight years. Therefore, NFFE feels it is both fiscally responsible and reflective of the income sacrificed by federal employees to adopt the long-standing practice of pay parity between civilian workers and the military by supporting HR 790 calling for a 2.6% federal pay increase.

As Congress works to negotiate an acceptable solution to pass the remaining FY19 appropriations bills, NFFE urges that whatever action is taken – whether it be a Continuing Resolution (CR) or a full FY19 Minibus that includes all or some of the seven outstanding spending measures, I believe that quickly approving a 2.6% civilian pay raise is more than reasonable. This number is reflective of pay parity with the military pay raise approved last year as a part of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and is reflective of the many years of sacrifices made by federal workers, including enduring a senseless 35-day government shutdown.

NFFE does recognize the acute difficulties facing Congress in these contentious times, but I simply ask that the men and women who work hard every day in the trenches to deliver excellence for the taxpayer not be harmed any more than they already have by the political turmoil in Washington.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions please feel free to contact NFFE Executive Director Steve Lenkart at (202) 216-4458.

Sincerely,

Randy Erwin
National President, NFFE