

March 29, 2007

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chapter Presidents and Legislative Coordinators

RE: FEHBP Premium Bill

SUMMARY: Hoyer/Wolf bipartisan FEHBP premium bill introduced.

As many of you know, Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-MD) delivered on his promise at our Legislative Conference to introduce a bill to increase the federal government's share of its portion of the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP) premium. He introduced H.R.1256, a bipartisan bill, shortly after NTEU's Legislative Conference with the support of Representative Frank Wolf (R-VA). The bipartisan bill would increase the government's share of FEHBP premiums to an average of 80 percent, up from the current average of 72 percent and will help lower health premium costs to federal employees and retirees.

NTEU strongly supports the bill. Federal employees are paying a constantly increasing share of their paycheck for health care premiums for their families, often at the same time their coverage has declined. For 2006, health insurance premiums increased an average of 6.4 percent. Since 2001, FEHBP premiums have risen by more than 50%.

For more information on this issue and to find out how you can help, you can visit www.capwiz.com/nteu.

If you would like additional information on this subject, please call Gail Amidzich in the Legislation Department at 202-572-5500, ext. 7048.

Colleen M. Kelley
National President