

June 23, 2005

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chapter Presidents and Legislative Coordinators

RE: Fiscal Year 2006 Transportation-Treasury Appropriations Bill

SUMMARY: The House of Representatives is scheduled to consider the Fiscal Year 2006 Transportation-Treasury Appropriations measure the week of June 27. The measure contains the 3.1% pay raise for federal employees in 2006 and several critical amendments may be offered on the House floor. Please go to www.capwiz.com/nteu for more information on what you can do to help.

The full House of Representatives is scheduled to consider the Fiscal Year 2006 Transportation-Treasury Appropriations measure the week of June 27. As you already know from previous chapter presidents' memos, this bill already contains a 3.1% pay raise for federal employees in 2006. The 3.1% pay raise was included by the full House Appropriations Committee when it considered the legislation earlier this week.

Several critical issues will be considered during House floor consideration of this legislation. Every NTEU member has a stake in the outcome of these issues, and I ask that you go to www.capwiz.com/nteu today for more information on what you and your fellow NTEU members can do. In addition, I have attached copies of letters I will send to the House of Representatives next week in support of these key issues.

First, the House Transportation-Treasury bill already contains language instructing the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to halt its plans to close Taxpayer Assistance Centers across the country until it provides additional information to the Congress. This was a great victory for NTEU, however, we anticipate that the administration may attempt to strike this language from the bill, and we must be prepared to stop that effort.

Second, Congressmen Robert Simmons (R-CT) and Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) will offer an amendment to prevent the IRS from using private collection agencies to collect federal taxes. NTEU continues to fight the IRS to prevent confidential information from being turned over to private companies, and it is critically important that this amendment be adopted.

Finally, Congressman Van Hollen will offer an amendment preventing the Office of Management and Budget from using any of its funds to implement the flawed A-76 contracting out process. As you know, the administration plans to contract out one out of every two federal

jobs and the A-76 process they have chosen to use do not even provide federal employees with a level playing field to compete for their own jobs. It is vitally important that the Van Hollen amendment be adopted.

Thank you very much for your help on these important issues. I hope you will visit NTEU's CapWiz site today.

Colleen M. Kelley
National President

Attachments