

## Legislative Committee Report

I served on the Legislative Committee for the 34<sup>th</sup> National Convention. This committee met all day August 26 and 27, with a short meeting on Sunday August 28<sup>th</sup> ending in a brunch. The committee consisted of 11 members from different regions.

Directives for the Legislative Committee were:

- (1) Consider and make recommendations on the disposition of member-submitted resolutions of a legislative or regulatory nature; and
- (2) Develop and recommend for adoption NARFE's Legislative Program for the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress, reflecting disposition of legislative resolutions and based on NARFE's legislative programs for previous Congresses.

Resolutions recommended for adoption were:

- 16-28 and 16-32 – Non Foreign Area Locality Pay
- 16-29 – Medicare Part B Hold Harmless
- 16-34 – Premium Conversion

Resolutions recommended for adoption with Amendment:

- 16-1 – Support Raising Social Security Payroll Tax Cap and Limiting Benefits for Those with Higher Incomes
- 16-42 – Support Risk Segmentation of FEHBP Risk Pool (and Differential Premiums) Based on Medicare Enrollment

Resolutions recommended for non-adoption were:

- 16-30 – Phased-In Doubling of Social Security Benefits
- 16-33 – Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for Federal Retirees

NARFE's Legislative Program for the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress modifications included:

- (1) Deleted one provision because the policy goal had been achieved.
- (2) Identified and added three provisions to reflect NARFE's stance on current, specific issues:
  - (a) Support more flexible withdrawal options for the Thrift Savings Plan (TSP).
  - (b) Oppose "adding conditions, such as a requirement to enroll in Medicare Part B, to the continued receipt of FEHBP benefits for current retirees and their spouses."
  - (c) Support maintaining adequate service standards (at 2012 levels) for USPS, including maintaining to-the-door delivery.

A Report of Convention Committee, Legislation, which included NARFE's Legislative Program for the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress (2017-2018); Resolution referred to the committee; with full explanations of additions, deletions, and modifications were distributed to all convention attendees on Tuesday, August 30<sup>th</sup>.

The Legislative Program was reported to convention attendees on Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. The report was voted on and passed. This action negated the requirement to address and vote on each Resolution.

Respectfully Submitted by:

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New Mexico Federation Vice President (Legislation)