

WHAT IS NARFE AND WHAT DOES IT DO FOR YOU

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) is the only association dedicated to protecting the earned benefits of federal employees, retirees, and their survivors. It was founded by 14 federal workers in 1921 (almost 90 years ago) and has become an effective and highly respected legislative voice for federal workers and retirees. Membership is open to civilians who are, or will be, eligible to receive an annuity or survivor annuity from the federal retirement programs of any agency of the US government. This includes retirees, current employees, spouses and surviving spouses of those eligible to join NARFE and former spouses who are entitled to a federal survivor annuity (SBP). NARFE works on the national and state levels in Congress to propose, and oppose, legislation in the interest of the federal employee and retiree. With close to 300,000 members nationwide, we are a strong voice in Washington D.C. NARFE is an organization governed by an elected leadership consisting of 1,477 chapters; 50 state federations, plus the District of Columbia, Panama, The Philippines and Puerto Rico.

Here in Tennessee, we have 36 chapters scattered throughout the state with a total membership of about 4000 members. Our NARFE Tennessee Federation consists of 8 elected Officers (TN Fed President; 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Vice Presidents; Secretary; Treasurer; Legislative Chair, and Membership Chair). We also have 8 appointed officers.

Some of NARFE's objectives are to (1) Sponsor and support legislation to protect the benefits and general welfare of its members on issues such as health benefits, retirement, etc. (2) Keep members informed about legislative issues, primarily retirement income, health care benefits, taxation and COLA's. (3) Work in partnership with the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to answer questions related to retirement benefits. And (4) cooperate with other organizations seeking to accomplish similar legislative goals such as MOAA and TREA (Military Officers Association of America & The Retired Enlisted Association).

One last point, there has been NO legislated reduction in civil service retirement benefits in over 15 years. Despite years of budget deficits, major natural disasters, a changing world economy, terrorist attacks at home and wars abroad; our earned benefits have remained untouched because NARFE, backed by activist members and supportive members of Congress, has acted as a deterrent against adverse proposals.

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