

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ACTIVE AND RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES
IOLA NARFE CHAPTER #2077, ORGANIZED JULY 1985 AT IOLA, KANSAS 66749

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NARFE WEB SITE: www.narfe.org.

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Next Chapter meeting, Monday February 7th 11:30 AM, Greenery, North State Street, Iola, Ks.
New Chapter Members are Lucille Riley, & Chris Bauer. Welcome aboard. Keith Adams a NARFE
Member has moved to Tulsa, Oklahoma. Kenneth Johnson of Humboldt a long time NARFE
Member Died, December 26th. Kenneth was a dedicated member and was on Dues Withholding..

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PAY FREEZE FINALIZED: A resolution providing funding for the day to day operations of the
federal government through March 4, 2011, passed Congress before it recessed for the year. Efforts
to negotiate a package to fund the government through the remainder of Fiscal Year 2011, which
ends September 30, 2011, faced a filibuster in the Senate, resulting in the need for a short term
continuing resolution. The legislation caps agencies operating budgets at \$1.1 trillion..

The bill includes a 1.4 percent pay raise for military personnel but freezes federal civilian salaries
for two years, in line with President Obamas' proposal to hold nonmilitary pay steady for 2011 and
2012. "The Pay Freeze will cancel cost of living adjustments to the General Schedule (Federal
Employees) and other federal pay scales for 2011 and 2012 "which includes retirees."

Workers would be eligible for promotions and step increases. (NARFE opposes the pay freeze.)
Federal Retirees and spouses are paid from the funds they paid into while still working. and funds
are invested. These funds have been audited & have been determined to be adequate for many years.

Joseph A. Beaudoin, NARFE President reacted with great disappointment to President Obama's
announcement; "~~A Two Year Pay Freeze For Civilian Federal Workers~~"--"~~FEDERAL WORKERS
AND THEIR FAMILIES ARE ONCE AGAIN SINGLED OUT.~~". Cutting pay sends the wrong
signal to the best and brightest workers of the federal agencies who are needed in these difficult
times." The Office of Personnel Management reported in October that private-sector workers earned
more than 24 percent more than federal employees in 2010, two percentage points higher than in
2009. What is more, the Society for Human Resources Management estimated in September that
salaries in the U. S. would increase by an average of. 2.91 percent in 2011. According to Mercer, a
human resources consulting firm. Only 2 % of companies plan across-board salary freezes next Yr.

"In light of the growing number of critical challenges being shouldered by federal workers, the
Government cannot afford to make substantial reductions to the earned compensation of individuals
who have dedicated their careers to public service. For that reason, we urge the president to Recon-
sider this ill-conceived decision. (When Congress left Washington D. C. in September to campaign
for the November election, it also left taxpayers in limbo about what income tax rates they will face
next year. If lawmakers can't reach an agreement and lets the Bush era tax cuts expire January 1,

all Taxpayers regardless of income will face higher Taxes regardless of income. Every taxpayer will face a tax increase because the current 10 percent tax rate would disappear. That means the first chunk of money earned, up to \$8,375 under 2010's tax brackets would be taxed at 15 percent more.

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HEALTH BENEFITS: The Federal Employees Health Benefits Program this month announced a rise in the employee share of premiums averaging 7.2 percent for 2011. Federal employees unions reacted to the hike with measured criticism. "The good news is that the bad news isn't worse," Dan Adcock Legislative Director for the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association, told FEND, "Part of the news is that the Office of Personnel Management has negotiated an average premium clearly under what other large employers sponsored plans have negotiated on behalf of their employees and retirees.

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WASHINGTON POST-- poll reported last week that 52 percent of Americans believe federal workers are overpaid and that more than one-third believe the employees are less qualified than those in the private sector. The polls noted that three out of four respondents who interacted with a federal employee said it was a positive experience.

Amid the heated anti-government rhetoric of this election season and suggestions that federal workers represent some sort of privileged class, "it may be easy to overlook the important role played by public servants who on a daily basis find solutions to serious problems, and "Assist Americans in Need." They keep us safe & Advance our National Interests. Much of what the federal government does actually works quite well, from the payment of Social Security benefits to 5.3 million Americans and the supervising of the safe takeoff & landing of thousands of airplanes to the work of the nation's intelligence analysts and law enforcement officials who protect our security.

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State insurance commissioners last week unanimously endorsed tough new standards that would require many health insurance companies to spend more of each premium dollar for benefits of Consumers. The new federal health care law stipulates that at least 80 percent of premium revenue must be spent on medical care and "activities that improve health care equality" for patients--and not retained as profits or used to Pay Executive Compensation and Administrative Expenses. The rules, adopted at a meeting of the National Association of insurance Commissioners, describe how the calculations classified as administrative will be made, specifying what counts as medical care and what expenses will be classified as administrative.

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ALZHEIMER. A recent report from the Alzheimer's Association and California's First Lady Maria Shriver showed that the disease is disproportionately a woman's problem. The report--based on a survey of 3,118 American adults about their experience and impact of Alzheimer's disease. The survey found that two-thirds of Alzheimer sufferers are women, 60 percent of them are unpaid caregivers for patients.

As of October 31, Kansas chapters have collected \$25,577.37 which averages \$5.49 per member. The 2010 goal is \$5.50 per member. Memorial contributions amount to \$2,434.50.

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REPORT appears in Federation Newsletter, FROM JIM MILLER(NARFE State Legislative Chair. States of Florida, Nevada, South Dakota, Texas & Washington do not have A Personal Income Tax. Kansas Chairman wants a report on how do they do that? Kansas receives 43.8% of their operation revenue from Personal Income Tax,?? How would Kansas replace that massive amount of money? & with What? (CONTINUED IN NEXT CHAPTER NEWS LETTER-BE SURE YOU READ IT)