

AFGE Firefighter and Law Enforcement Officer Workforce Issues and Legislation

AFGE represents firefighters and law enforcement officers at the Department of Defense (DoD), the Department of Veterans Affairs, Bureau of Prisons, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and many other agencies. AFGE strongly supports the following legislation directly related to federal firefighters and law enforcement officers

- **H.R. 1255 Federal Firefighter Pay Equity Act** provides a more accurate computation of retirement benefits for federal firefighters required to work mandatory overtime. Certain firefighters employed by the Federal Government are required by law to work a regular tour of duty consisting of 72 hours per week. 19 of those 72 hours per week are overtime hours This bill would include the 19 hours of mandatory overtime into the computation of retirement benefits. Introduced by Representative Gerry Connolly, (VA-11)
- **H.R. 1174 and S. 1942 Federal Firefighter Fairness Act** creates a presumption that a disability or death of a federal firefighter in fire protection activities caused by any of certain diseases is the result of the firefighter's work. Introduced by Representative Salud Carbajal (CA-24) in the House and Introduced by Senator Tom Carper (D-DE) in the Senate
- **S. 2525 Guaranteeing Equipment Safety for Firefighters Act** would require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to conduct a study of personal protective equipment (PPE) worn by firefighters to determine the prevalence and concentration of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). Introduced by Senator Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH)
- **H.R. 1195 and S. 473 Law Enforcement Officer Equity Act** would grant all federal law enforcement officers (LEOs) access to federal benefits including 6C special retirement benefits due to the level of training required and greater danger present in their profession. Introduced by Representative Peter King (NY-2) in the House and Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ) in the Senate
- **H.R.1156 - LEOSA Reform Act** would improve the Law Enforcement Officer Safety Act and provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers. This bill permits certain qualified current and retired law enforcement officers to carry firearms in certain federal facilities. Introduced by Representative Don Bacon (NE-2)