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Sign the "Don't Shortchange Military-connected Students" campaign

Sign the "Collective bargaining in DoDEA schools" campaign

Hi Member,

Whether or not you received the recent—and possibly confusing—email from NEA about the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), we want to share a small but important win and let you know what comes next.

What is the NDAA?

The NDAA, or National Defense Authorization Act, is a law passed by Congress each year to determine how military funding is spent. It covers service members' pay, equipment, and operations, and also includes policies that directly impact the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA)—which means it affects all DoDEA educators, like yourself, working for the Department of Defense.

Where Are We in the Process?

To be clear: the NDAA has not passed into law yet. It has cleared the House Armed Services Committee—an important milestone, but just one step in a long legislative process:

- ☒ Drafted in House or Senate
- ☒ Committee Markup (**this is where we are now**)
- ☐ Full Chamber Vote (House or Senate votes)
- ☐ Sent to Other Chamber (repeat markup and vote)
- ☐ Conference Committee (when the House and Senate work out differences to agree on one final bill)
- ☐ Final Vote in Both Chambers
- ☐ Presidential Signature (becomes law)

Why This Moment Matters

Thanks to the collective advocacy of NEA and the FEA, two major wins were secured during the recent markup:

- One amendment blocks the Trump administration from terminating DoDEA and Department of Defense childcare employees.
- Another restores collective bargaining rights to DoDEA and DoD federal employees, reversing harmful restrictions from an earlier executive order.

But this is only the beginning. These amendments still need to pass the full House and Senate, and be included in the final reconciled version of the NDAA.

What You Can Do Now

We need your help to keep up the pressure:

- Complete the Legislative Action Center (LAC) campaign on [not shortchanging military-connected students](#) and [restoring collective bargaining in DoDEA schools](#) if you haven't already.
 - Remember: as a federal employee, you are legally protected under 5 U.S.C. § 7211 to contact Congress as a private citizen (not in your official role).
- Share your story by replying to this email—your voice brings the issues to life for lawmakers and allies. If you're not sure where to start, consider these prompts:
 - What kind of support do you and your colleagues need most right now?
 - What would it mean for your students and your work if collective bargaining rights were fully restored?

In solidarity,
Federal Education Association

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