



Retired News

Information for FEA Retired Members

January 2026

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1. Happy New Year. As we begin a new year with so much uncertainty on the national stage, FEA-Retired will continue to work to support public education, the work of our military personnel around the globe and protect the benefits of membership for our FEA-retirees. We currently have 882 FEA retired members, an increase of over 7% from last year. Thank you for your support in our joint mission.

2a. Update on the Status of FEA. The National Defense Authorization Act was passed and signed by the President. The provision that barred enforcement of the "Collective Bargaining Executive Order" in the Department of Defense was not included in the final version. There is a separate bill that has been passed by the House which would prohibit enforcement of that Executive Order government-wide.

On the judicial side, the DC Circuit Court consolidated all the lawsuits before that court (there were four at the time) and held a hearing on December 15th. NEA attorney Jason Wlata represented FEA in that hearing. At this time, NEA indicated that they do not know when the court may issue a decision, and the holidays have certainly pushed back many deadlines for the court.

2b. FEA-Retired Members Need to Act Now in Contacting Congress. NEA has updated the NEA Legislative Action Center to push the Senate to pass the "Protect America's Workforce Act" (S. 2837). This bill has passed the House, and we need the Senate to act on this. This bill would direct a government-wide prohibition of the enforcement of the Administration's Executive Order that effectively bans collective bargaining for Federal unions. Passage of this bill would preserve our Stateside and Overseas contracts, would allow us to arbitrate cases, and reverse the negative changes that resulted from this Executive Order. Use this link to contact your Senator to urge them to support Senate Bill 2837: <https://www.nea.org/advocating-for-change/action-center/take-action/urge-senate-pass-protect-americas-workforce-act>

It would be especially helpful for FEA-retirees to contact not only their own members of Congress, but those who are likely "swing votes"- such as Senator Collins from Maine, Senator Murkowski from Alaska, and Senator Tillis from North Carolina.

3. Opportunities to Mingle with Your Colleagues: NEA-Retired will be holding their **Annual Spring Conference** just outside of Phoenix, Arizona, February 28-March 3. Information regarding this conference will be in the NEA-Retired magazine (January 2026 issue) or visit www.nea.org/retired

And don't forget to register for the annual **DoDDS Reunion**, July 13-17, 2026, in Brookfield, Wisconsin, just outside of Milwaukee. Hundreds of your retired colleagues will be there and every year there are memories made, people to catch up on, and photographs to take. The mini-reunions are a great time to get re-acquainted with those with whom we have lost touch. The registration fee is \$160 until the end of March. For more information visit: <https://www.mydoddsreunion.com/>



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