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for current and retired government workers and their families since 1933
American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO

AFGE Continues Push To STOP NSPS

As AFGE and its partners in the 40-member United Defense Workers Coalition (UDWC) continue to seek legislative demise of the new Department of Defense (DoD) personnel system, coalition attorneys led by AFGE are pressing forward with their legal fight against the plan.

At a recent news conference, UDWC representatives joined AFGE National President John Gage and General Counsel Mark Roth to denounce an appellate

court decision upholding DoD's National Security Personnel System (NSPS). The sharply divided 2-1 decision in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit came down May 18.

NSPS would curtail collective bargaining, independent third party review of employee disputes and adverse actions, and establish an internal labor relations panel.

"That the court would not see through the ineffectiveness of this new system is simply amazing," said Gage, "This is a plan that would not only obliterate the rights of hundreds of thousands of civilian defense workers, it could in the end cost taxpayers millions."

AFGE, after consultation with other unions, decided to challenge the decision of the Court of Appeals in AFGE vs. Gates by filing a motion for an *en banc* review with the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. This motion requests that the full Court review the majority decision before that decision becomes final. At press time, DoD is precluded from moving forward until at least July 9 but that date is subject to change.

In February 2006, AFGE and the UDWC won a decisive ruling in the U.S. District Court against NSPS. Judge Emmet G. Sullivan's ruling gutted NSPS provisions pertaining to labor relations, collective bargaining, independent third party review, adverse actions, and DoD's proposed internal labor relations panel. The Defense Department appealed that decision.

Recently, the House of Representatives, in its 2008 Defense Authorization Bill, struck down NSPS by an overwhelming 397-27 margin. The Senate Armed Services Committee also included some



National President John Gage



General Counsel Mark Roth

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NSPS restrictions in its version of the authorization bill, but details were not available at press time. After the full Senate votes on the measure, it will then be reconciled with the House bill during a House-Senate conference meeting. For an update on activities go to www.defenseworkers.org or www.afge.org. ●



A MESSAGE FROM NATIONAL PRESIDENT JOHN GAGE

“Judgment Day” Closer than You Think

It may seem like the distant future, but it's not. And if you'll pardon the religious allegory, it will be something of a “judgment day” for AFGE members.

I'm speaking of the 2008 elections. Elections that will determine control of the White House, Congress, and, over the long run, the Supreme Court as well.

All Americans have an enormous amount at stake in these elections, but AFGE members have a specific interest. That's because not only will we choose the officials who will decide what our government does about the health care crisis, the economy, retirement security, the war in Iraq and a host of other critical issues, but as federal employees we also will be electing our own bosses.

We will be electing officials who will determine the very terms of our employment — our job security, our pay and benefits, our ability to serve the public effectively, and even, potentially, the survival of the professional civil service system that it is our mission to uphold.

What's at stake is perhaps best exemplified by the Bush administration's misguided National Security Personnel System (NSPS), which would destroy collective bargaining and due process rights for Department of Defense employees. Along with the Department of Homeland Security's proposed

It also is very important that you take the time to answer our 2008 presidential preference poll, so we know precisely what our members are thinking before we take union-wide action.

personnel system and the so-called Working for America Act, NSPS would eviscerate the civil service system. The worst parts of NSPS were removed in the House 2008 Defense Authorization Bill. While we are fighting to include similar language in the Senate version and override a threatened veto — or kill off NSPS as our legal action makes its way through the appellate process — its fate ultimately may be decided by the 2008 elections.

The same holds true of our fight to give Transportation Security Officers their inalienable right to bargain collectively. We have already won House and Senate votes restoring this right to TSOs, but, here again, the president is threatening a veto. So this issue also might need to be resolved in the 2008 elections.

A third issue at stake is reversing the Bush administration's relentless privatization schemes, which are reducing accountability and funneling public funds into the pockets of crony contractors. We succeeded in getting an ambitious, comprehensive contracting out reform amendment attached to the 2008 Defense Authorization Bill that makes appeal rights equitable, eliminates automatic recompetition, ends OMB privatization quotas, and makes other important changes. But this issue also will be addressed more fully under a new president.

With these and many other matters that directly affect AFGE members' quality of life hanging in the balance, it could not be more critical that every part of our union, at the Local, District, Council and national levels, go into overdrive to shape the public debate and impact the outcome of the 2008 elections.

Already, it is clear why this is so important. Several presidential contenders are stooping to the old, tired tactic of bashing government employees. For example, one candidate talks of getting rid of 20 percent of the federal workforce, while another says he will reorganize the entire civil service system. That is why, in addition to electing a president who will support government employees, we must also aggressively shape the public dialogue to prevent the misuse of our members as a political football.

As we gear up for the hard work ahead, we have much to be proud of. Our legislative victories so far in this Congress are unparalleled. Despite the Appeals Court setback on NSPS, we have won more than our share of court cases and grievances. We continue to recruit more members and grow stronger. We also are reaching out more to the media, the public and our members to publicize our work and victories.

Still, these achievements must be a prelude to AFGE becoming a powerhouse over the next 17 months. We must not only strengthen our grassroots mobilization capacity and our Legislative and Political Training Institute — we must also strengthen our representation, bargaining, organizing and communications capacities, as I discussed in the last issue of the “Government Standard.”

It also is very important that you take the time to answer our 2008 presidential preference poll, so we know precisely what our members are thinking before we consider taking union-wide action. (See p. 5 for more information.)

Clearly, 2008 will be a pivotal election in American history. For us, it is a singular opportunity to reverse course from the cronyism, incompetence, greed and malevolence that have characterized the executive branch since 2001, and to build larger majorities for justice, equal opportunity, worker and human rights, and a stronger democracy in Congress. Future generations surely will pass judgment on our efforts. We cannot let them down! ●

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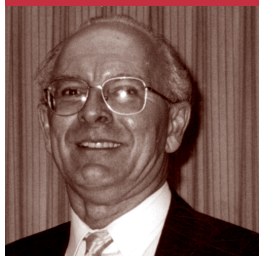
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Our Members Make Change Happen

ACTIVISM



For Steve Kofahl, AFGE Local 3937 president, the challenge and empowerment of activism are

life's greatest reward. Through his involvement with AFGE, Kofahl has found himself negotiating, processing grievances and arbitrations, organizing, as well as other classic representational responsibilities. He prides himself on service, results and support—like that of many members of the Washington Congressional delegation.

“Not only has the Washington Congressional delegation recognized a need for and supported AFGE efforts, but its members have responded by taking the lead in promoting union and worker rights, and providing protection and improvement for vital social programs such as those administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA), Veterans

Affairs, Environmental Protection Agency and other agencies where AFGE members work,” Kofahl said.

Kofahl joined AFGE in 1973 as a claims representative with the SSA in New York. Shortly thereafter, Kofahl moved to Oregon and joined Local 3937, for which he has served as an officer since 1987.

“I have found that by reaching out to our allies in organized labor and in advocacy groups that represent the aged and disabled—who make up much of the SSA clientele—our effectiveness can be multiplied many times over.”

—STEVE KOFAHL

Kofahl's passion for legislative action and coalition building is exemplified by the partnerships he has forged with organizations.

“We cannot battle our wealthy and powerful enemies alone,” Kofahl said. “I

have found that by reaching out to our allies in organized labor and in advocacy groups that represent the aged and disabled—who make up much of the SSA clientele—our effectiveness can be multiplied many times over.”

In addition to advocating for an increase in SSA workers to better serve clients, Kofahl has been involved in the fight to preserve and expand workers' rights to organize and bargain collectively, both in public and private sectors. He accredits much of his success in these areas to the organizational bonds he has formed.

“My Local participated with the AFL-CIO and with Jobs with Justice to support passage of the Employee Free Choice Act,” Kofahl said. “In turn, those groups turned out supporters for our rallies for Transportation Security Administration and Department of Defense workers. Together, we have made a difference.”

Kofahl currently is serving in his fourth term as Local 3937 president. He and his wife, Local Executive Vice President Carrie Kitchin-Kofahl, both are claims representatives for SSA. ●

SERVICE



As the AFGE Local 2425 president, Sharon Williams is the epitome of dedication and compassion. Now

in her second term, Williams has committed herself to her members and the success of AFGE. She has seen steady increases in her local's membership and is now 80% organized. For Williams, no problem is too big or too small.

“Some of my members may come to me with tears of joy or sadness, some may need a hug, and others are just looking

for a sympathetic ear. Whatever it is, I am here for them,” Williams said.

Williams has been an active member of AFGE throughout her 30 year career as a federal government employee. In 1977, Williams began working as an Equal Employment Opportunity counselor with the VA Medical Center in East Orange, N.J. During this time she also served as the vice president of the Employee Association for the VA Medical Center. After 17 years of employment, Williams decided to pursue a role in leadership with AFGE after her employee rights were severely violated.

Williams credits much of her success to her mentors, AFGE 2nd District National Vice President Derrick Thomas and National Representative Vernon Thompson, her executive board and the members of Local 2425.

“I love what I do and the individuals I serve. Even after 30 years of government service, I would not let a thing like retirement keep me from my work as president,” Williams said. “Through my

“Through my experience with AFGE, I have found that absolutely no union does it better and it is my mission to ensure that everyone knows that.”

—SHARON WILLIAMS

experience with AFGE, I have found that absolutely no union does it better and it is my mission to ensure that everyone knows that.” ●

AFGE's 2007 Human Rights Training Conference

The 2007 Human Rights Training Conference will take place Aug. 20-24, 2007 in Chicago. Once again, the Women's and Fair Practices Departments would like to offer you the best instructors to help build your union and promote civil, human, women and workers' rights issues.

This year, we will offer 15 different training classes that reflect the changing responsibilities of union leadership. Featured classes will include training on/for EEO, stewards, WFP coordinator,



financial officers, new leaders and collective bargaining. This year's conference also will feature Donna Brazile, political analyst and campaign advisor for President Clinton; Ernest C. Hadley, one of the greatest legal minds in the EEO arena and author of "A Guide to Federal Sector Equal Employment Law and Practice"; and invited guest, Rep.

Jesse Jackson Jr. (D-Ill.).

This year's conference will be hosted at the Hyatt Regency Chicago. We are proud to patronize this fine union estab-

lishment and encourage you to make your reservations as soon as possible. Rooms are limited. The deadline for hotel reservations is July 29, 2007. You can secure your reservation by calling the hotel at 1-800-633-7313 or visiting their website at <http://chicagoregency.hyatt.com>.

Registrants must reference the American Federation of Government Employees Human Rights Training to get the discounted rate. The negotiated rate is single occupancy, \$149 per night; double occupancy, \$174 per night; triple occupancy, \$199 per night; and quad occupancy, \$224 per night.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call our office at **202-639-6417**. ●

REGISTER NOW!!

www.afge.org/HRT

District of Columbia Workers Form Safety Task Force

In response to recent reports of violence against District of Columbia government employees, AFGE President Gage, Women and Fair Practices National Vice-President Andrea E. Brooks, 14th District NVP Dwight Bowman and AFGE Council 211 have formed a D.C. Workers Safety Task Force.

"This task force will offer employees that have been victimized or that have knowledge of an incident to have a voice. As a union we have an obligation to stand with all of our employees. We will not allow our members to be put in harms way without any protection," said NVP Brooks.

The task force's initial meeting was coordinated with support from AFGE Council 211, which represents several D.C. agencies including D.C. Mental Health and Retardation, Youth Rehabilitative Services, Public Works, Recreation and Parks, Housing and Community Development, Fire and EMS, Health and Human Services, Water and Sewer Authority, Public Benefits and the Public Housing Authority. Reports of violence against the employees of these agencies include physical and verbal assaults and assault with a deadly weapon.

"The District of Columbia Police Department recently released information that indicates crime in the city is on the rise. Unfortunately, government employees account for a



growing number of those being victimized," said Johnny Walker, president of AFGE Local 383.

"The employees of the District of Columbia have been abused and neglected by the government they serve," Gage added. "Our employees are committed to serving the district and their consumers, but they should not be put at risk simply by going to work. We welcome the opportunity to meet with D.C. government leaders to find a resolution."

If you or someone you know has been the victim of violence as a District of Columbia employee, or if you would like to gather additional information on the D.C. Workers Safety Task Force, email dcworkerssafety@afge.org. ●

It's Our Turn 2008

Participate in the AFGE 2008 Presidential Preference Poll

There is a lot at stake in 2008. The next president will determine the direction our country takes on a variety of issues facing all working families such as lowering health care costs, creating good jobs and insuring retirement security.

The stakes are particularly high for federal employees. The person who gets elected president will have a huge impact on your pay, civil service protections, job security and the under-

funding, understaffing and cronyism that is undermining the effective delivery of public services.

As AFGE gears up for next year's election, we want to know what you are thinking. Do you have a favorite presidential candidate? What issues are most important to you? Take the AFGE Presidential Preference Poll. Tell us what you are thinking by going to www.itsourturn2008.org/survey.cfm.

Question #1:

If the presidential election were held today, would you vote for the:

- Democratic presidential candidate
- Republican presidential candidate
- Undecided
- Other

Question #2:

If you answered "Democratic" in Question #1, and the Democratic presidential primary were held today, which Democratic presidential candidate would you vote for?

- Joseph Biden
- Hillary Clinton
- Chris Dodd
- John Edwards
- Mike Gravel
- Dennis Kucinich
- Barack Obama
- Bill Richardson
- Undecided
- Other

Question #3:

If you answered "Republican" in Question #1, and the Republican presidential primary were held today, which Republican presidential candidate would you vote for?

- Sam Brownback
- Jim Gilmore
- Rudy Giuliani
- Mike Huckabee
- Duncan Hunter
- John McCain
- Ron Paul
- Mitt Romney
- Fred Thompson
- Tommy Thompson
- Undecided
- Other

Question #4:

If the general presidential election were held today, which presidential candidate would you vote for? Please choose only one candidate.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Joseph Biden (D) | <input type="checkbox"/> Dennis Kucinich (D) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sam Brownback (R) | <input type="checkbox"/> John McCain (R) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hillary Clinton (D) | <input type="checkbox"/> Barack Obama (D) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chris Dodd (D) | <input type="checkbox"/> Ron Paul (R) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> John Edwards (D) | <input type="checkbox"/> Bill Richardson (D) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jim Gilmore (R) | <input type="checkbox"/> Mitt Romney (R) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rudy Giuliani (R) | <input type="checkbox"/> Fred Thompson (R) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mike Gravel (D) | <input type="checkbox"/> Tommy Thompson (R) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mike Huckabee (R) | <input type="checkbox"/> Undecided |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Duncan Hunter (R) | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

AFGE is a non-partisan organization and is not committed to the success or failure of any of the current candidates.

VA Workers Tell Their Story—

CANDICE LEE

is a member of

AFGE Local 331.

She has worked at

the Perry Point

Laundry Service for

18 years.



I started working in the laundry at the VA 18 years ago. Since then, I have processed linens, folded and sorted clothes and worked the machines. Now, I'm a work leader. I teach the other employees how to operate the machines and I make the work schedules, but I still work right along everybody else. I like the work I do here. It's fast paced and it gives me an opportunity to financially help my grandkids.

The laundry workers don't have a supervisor right now, so work leaders like me pick up the slack. There is no extra pay, but somebody has to lead the team. Since the laundry is closing, they have supervisors come in from housekeeping who usually don't have any laundry experience; we have to show them the ropes.

A lot has changed since I started working at the laundry. We used to have 60 people working here and we serviced a couple of different hospitals. Now there are only a handful of us left. It's even harder now that the laundry is closing. Management doesn't feel like it's worth paying to get things fixed since we are shutting down. Some people here wonder

why they should work so hard. They think, "if management doesn't care and we are closing down anyway, what difference does it make?" I remind them that we still need to do our job for the veterans.

"It's hard to keep going when you know your job is being contracted out, but it is even harder when you don't know what is going to happen."

In my years here, I've had a lot of different managers, and every time management changes the laundry changes. The closing rumors have been around since I started 18 years ago. After a while you stop paying attention to them. Now it really is supposed to happen. Manage-

ment says there still will be jobs in housekeeping, but we'll see. I have not seen or heard of a plan from anybody. All we hear are a bunch of rumors and hearsay. It's hard to keep going when you know your job is being contracted out, but it is even harder when you don't know what is going to happen.

One thing I do know is that workers will have to take pay cuts. WG-3s will have to take WG-2 jobs if they go to housekeeping because there are no WG-3 jobs there. Others will go into housekeeping with the same pay but only for two years. A lot of us are not old enough to retire and worry that we will not be able to get jobs in other departments. It is a shame, but people are giving up and morale is terrible.

The laundry has done a lot to help the people who work here. Many of the folks who work here are veterans that have had a tough time. The laundry has given them a sense of purpose and accomplishment. If the laundry shuts down, I don't know what they'll do. ●

Walter Reed: The **Cost** of **Privatization**

Over the past few months inquiries into care at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center highlighted the fractures in service created by privatization at the nation's departments of Defense (DoD) and Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers. At the nation's foremost DoD medical facility, privatization triggered an exodus of highly trained federal employees at a time when the facility experienced increasing numbers of returning service members. The result was an egregious mistreatment of those needing care.

"Troops returning from war, who have risked both life and limb, deserve the best treatment possible but instead are being victimized by the waste, fraud and abuse of power of the current administration," said John Gage, president of AFGE.

AFGE's review of Walter Reed's privatization records revealed a botched system whose costs far exceeded the savings it was to produce. The June 2000 solicitation was legally bound not to exceed 48 months. Walter Reed's contractor, IAP, was not named until January 2006, 68 months after the initial solicitation. Following 16 amendments to the original solicitation and 1,500 changes to the final version, the Army requested that the Pentagon end the process, but later was refused.

The Army acknowledged that the cost of carrying out the privatization effort and eliminating the workforce was at least \$12.7 million, well in excess of the \$7.4 million in savings promised by the contractor even if there aren't any cost overruns.

The ensuing uproar over the mismanagement of the facility prompted President Bush and administration officials to look



into the level of care being provided at the rest of the nation's DoD and VA medical facilities. The president authorized the Commission on Care for America's Returning Wounded Warriors, while VA Secretary Jim Nicholson issued a directive to the 1,400 VA medical facilities to provide quality reports on the state of their facilities. Both actions failed to seek input from the people closest to the problem, those providing the care.

The Commission was led by Sen. Bob Dole (R-Kan.) and Donna Shalala, former health secretary under President Clinton, and included two veterans wounded in Iraq, the wife of an injured Army staff sergeant, and the chairman and CEO of a not-for-profit that constructs "comfort homes" for hospitalized military personnel. Ominously missing from the list were personnel or personnel representatives from DoD or VA healthcare facilities.

Under the directive issued by Secretary Nicholson, management officials at VA medical facilities were given less than one week to fully evaluate and report on the state of their facilities. Again, administration officials failed to seek input from the frontline employees providing care and maintaining the medical facilities.

Despite these omissions, through budget shortfalls, staffing shortages and while receiving an increasing number of service members and veterans in need of care, government employees around the country continue to comfort, console and maintain the facilities necessary to care for America's returning wounded more effectively than private contractors. ●

NEW BENEFITS

for AFGE members

Learn more at

www.afge.org

RNs Working Together

As one of 10 AFL-CIO affiliate unions working in partnership to strengthen the voice of working nurses, AFGE was a powerful presence at the recently-held RNs Working Together (RNWT) retreat. The retreat, held in April, brought together dozens of nurse leaders from private and public sector unions. The meeting was held to determine core values and a strategic direction for the organization. The AFGE contingent was led by National Secretary-Treasurer J. David Cox and 8th District National Vice President Jane Nygaard, who both had long nursing careers. NVP Nygaard also chairs AFGE's Nurse Steering Committee and will serve as the union's representative on the RNWT Leadership Committee, along with Professional Employee Coordinator, Cathie McQuiston. ●



Attendees at RNs Working Together, AFL-CIO Leadership retreat: Front: Deb Cederholm, VA; Barbara Casanova, VA; Joyce Peterson, BOP; NST J. David Cox, Back: Linda McEwen, VA; NVP Jane Nygaard; Elizabeth Hedaria, DoD. Not pictured: MOD Sharon Pinnock; PEC Cathie McQuiston.

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Local 12 Seeks Congressional Investigation into A-76 Process at DOL

Eliminated Jobs Disproportionately Affect Women and Minorities, says AFGE

AFGE Local 12 is seeking a Congressional investigation into the competitive contracting process at the Department of Labor (DOL), which recently eliminated 250 federal jobs. Additionally, AFGE is considering filing a class action lawsuit against the department and DOL Secretary Elaine Chao.

The affected jobs, which were overwhelmingly held by African-American women, were eliminated after the agency awarded a contract to GAP Solutions, Inc. to perform critical administrative functions across 13 departmental agencies in 32 locations.

"We are concerned that this competition has been unfairly awarded and disproportionately impacts minority employees," said Alex Bastani, president of AFGE Local 12, which represents the affected employees. GAP Solutions, Inc. presented a private sector bid of \$71 million to DOL to perform what were deemed by the administration as administrative tasks. The DOL, however, excluded critical job functions and grossly undervalued others in its Performance Work Statement, which serves as the basis for the private sector bid. Excluding or undervaluing work functions is a violation of the A-76 guidelines that regulate competitive outsourcing in the federal government.

"The contractor will have to perform a higher level of work than it bid to perform, increasing the actual cost of the bid. It is highly questionable whether the work in question can be performed for the amount stated in the initial bid," added Bastani. ●

Three AFGE Family Members Win Prestigious Union Plus Scholarships

Three members of AFGE families recently won 2007 Union Plus Scholarship awards.

The AFGE winners are Eric J. Gomez of McAllen, Texas (\$1,000), whose mother is a member of Local 4032; Iddoshe Hirpa of Louisville, Ky. (\$4,000), whose father is a member of Local 2519; and Nicole Kubiczki of Pittsburgh (\$4,000), whose mother is a member of Local 1923.

The three are among 103 students from 45 unions awarded a total of \$150,000 in scholarships from the Union Plus Scholarship program. The awards are distributed to students who are from union families, or are union members themselves, attending two- and four-year colleges as well as recognized technical or trade schools.

Winners were chosen from more than 5,500 applications received from 58 unions in all 50 states and many territories, as well as Puerto Rico and the District of Columbia. The scholarships are sponsored by the Union Plus Education Foundation, which receives funding from HSBC, the issuer of the Union Plus Credit Card. Since 1992, more than \$2.4 million has been awarded through these prestigious scholarship awards.

"This program is a way to help union members and their families realize their dreams," said John Gage, president of AFGE. "With the rising cost of college tuition, we're doing everything we can to help union families save money."

How the Union Plus Scholarship Program Works

In addition to demonstrating academic ability, applicants are required to submit essays of no more than 500 words describing their career goals, detailing their personal relationship with the union movement and explaining why they are deserving of a union scholarship.

Individuals must be accepted into an accredited college or university, community college or recognized technical or trade school at the time the award is issued. Beginning in 2008, graduate school students also will be eligible for Union Plus Scholarships. There is no requirement to

have participated in any Union Plus program in order to qualify.

2008 Applications

Applications for next year's awards will be available in September 2007. To download the application at that time, visit the Member Benefits section at www.afge.org. Or, applicants may send a postcard with their name, address,

telephone number and international union name to: Union Plus Education Foundation, c/o Union Privilege, P.O. Box 34800, Washington, DC 20043-4800.

The application deadline is Jan. 31, 2008. Recipients of scholarships will be announced May 31, 2008. Due to the high volume of applications, only winners will receive notification. ●

Major Strides in Reforming Contracting Out Process

Thanks to an aggressive push by our activists, AFGE has made significant progress in pushing Congressional reforms to the privatization/contracting out process:

- ▶ A provision by Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Robert Byrd (D-W.Va.) in the recent supplemental appropriations bill that permanently places all 2,240 employees of the Mine Safety and Health Administration off limits to privatization.
- ▶ Another Byrd provision would permanently protect from privatization more than 600 employees in the Department of Energy's National Energy Technology Laboratory.
- ▶ An amendment to the Defense Authorization Bill by Reps. Nancy Boyda (D-Kan.), Carol Shea-Porter (D-N.H.), Gene Taylor (D-Miss.) and Elijah Cummings (D-Md.) would dramatically reform the current Office of Management and Budget (OMB) privatization process—a process that led to the Walter Reed contracting out fiasco. Proposed reforms in the amendment include: appeal rights for federal employees, elimination of automatic recompetitions that allow contractors to bid again on proposals they lost, elimination of OMB privatization quotas that force agencies to review certain numbers of employees for privatization within

specified periods of time, exclusion of health care and retirement benefits from the cost comparison process, and a strong requirement that the Department of Defense finally develop guidance to bring in-house new work and currently outsourced work.

- ▶ A provision in the House Energy and Water Appropriations Bill would eliminate the use of the controversial OMB Circular A-76 process in the Army Corps of Engineers.
- ▶ A provision in the House Interior Appropriations Bill would eliminate the use of A-76 in the U.S. Forest Service.
- ▶ The Wounded Warrior Assistance Act (H.R. 1538), which passed the House with strong bipartisan support would impose a one-year moratorium on new privatization reviews in DoD military hospitals.

Expect more anti-privatization legislation to be considered by Congress.

"Clearly, members of Congress, in the aftermath of the Walter Reed fiasco, have had enough with attempts by the Bush administration to sell the government to businesses whose only aim is to make a profit, not to provide quality government service. We will continue our lobbying efforts to stop attempts by OMB to make government an appendage of corporate America," said AFGE President John Gage. ●

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
 FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006

REVENUE

Per capita tax and fees	\$38,615,797
Death benefit insurance premiums	978,427
Building rental income	2,542,955
Investment income	1,122,032
Net appreciation in value of investments	752,205
Legislative action contributions	516,843
Settlement payments	796,871
Education and training	380,738
Convention income	325,325
Other	936,629

Total revenue	46,967,822
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EXPENSES

Salaries	16,431,017
Payroll taxes	1,241,629
Employee benefits	3,327,056
Net Periodic pension costs	2,805,690
Postretirement benefits other than pensions	2,735,653
Organizing rebates and programs	1,337,290
Death benefit premiums	646,813
Travel	2,956,476
District office lease	328,740
Interest expense	1,080,499
Depreciation	831,751
Affiliation dues and expenses	3,026,116
Assistance to councils	565,322
Real estate taxes	501,169
Building operating expenses	673,087
Contributions	286,770
Other general and administrative	6,772,711

Total expenses	45,547,789
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EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$1,420,033
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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES
STATEMENT OF EXPENSES BY ACTIVITY
 FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2006

DISTRICT OFFICES	
2	\$1,043,298
3	732,174
4	1,148,224
5	1,475,283
6	605,164
7	703,070
8	377,090
9	731,898
10	1,076,575
11	863,836
12	1,118,384
14	791,661
<hr/>	
Total districts	10,666,657
<hr/>	
HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENTS	
General administrative	7,020,675
Finance and data processing	2,748,885
Education	395,386
Service	645,409
Personnel	129,519
Legislation	865,446
Field services	1,196,882
Fair practices	906,342
Public affairs	251,610
Public policy	629,376
General counsel	2,209,439
Membership and organizing	3,746,096
Special organizing	1,557,416
Communications	1,346,550
Women's affairs	727,824
Media	658,324
<hr/>	
Total headquarters departments	25,035,179
<hr/>	
OTHER	
Death benefit program	646,813
Strike-Legal Fund expenses—primarily legal fees for legal rights cases	59,662
Legislative Action Fund program	453,676
Legal Representation Fund program	389,725
Affiliation with AFL-CIO and other organizations	3,026,116
Costs of National Convention	924,074
Assistance to councils	565,322
Contributions, gifts and grants	286,770
Cost of operating and maintaining the Sims/Sturdivant Building, including interest on mortgage	3,288,289
District Training Funds	211,791
Union Privilege Fund	58,131
Less: Rent expense charged to District 14 for occupancy of the Sims/Sturdivant Building	(64,416)
<hr/>	
Total other	9,845,953
<hr/>	
Total	\$45,547,789
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AFGE Statement of Activities

District of Columbia Workers Form **SAFETY TASK FORCE**

See page 4

American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO
80 F Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001

www.afge.org

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AFGE Continues Efforts to Secure Bargaining Rights for TSOs

In recent months, AFGE was successful in getting language passed in both the House and the Senate ensuring that Transportation Security Officers (TSO) would receive collective bargaining rights and civil service protections. The next step is Conference, during which members of both the House and Senate will work to create one bill to present to the president. At press time, Conference had not yet begun.

In the meantime, AFGE continues to work toward achieving full bargaining rights for TSA employees by lobbying members of Congress and intensifying its outreach to news media.

For more information on AFGE's efforts with TSA, please call 1-866-392-6832, or visit www.tsaunion.net. ●



AFGE'S Women's and Fair Practices Department

Invites You to Attend

THE 2007 HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING CONFERENCE

August 20–24th in Chicago

REGISTER NOW!!

www.afge.org/HRT