

Your FMA Monthly Grassroots Update

Dear FMA Member,

Welcome to your April grassroots update! We hope you will use this tool to learn more about the issues FMA is working on, the responses of our national office team and leadership, and the many ways you can help. We are very excited about the work we are doing with the 116th Congress.

Following FMA's series of wins on important issues surrounding pay and benefits – including preventing a pay freeze in 2019 and the establishment of six new locality pay areas – this month we highlight how you can join the continuing fight.

Protect your Pay and Benefits!

Help us help you! One of our primary jobs in the national office is to be your eyes, ears, and mouth on Capitol Hill and let lawmakers know how the legislation they are working on impacts federal managers. But your voice makes a real difference, and lawmakers need to hear directly from you. One of the best ways to do that is to send action letters, which are conveniently available on our website at <https://www.fedmanagers.org/Action-Letters>.

There are five pre-written action letters currently available. This month, we want to highlight two letters that directly impact all feds:

- President Trump released his FY 2020 budget request last month. While FMA supports certain elements of the proposal, including allowing agencies greater flexibility to extend the probationary period, overall FMA opposes the plan due to the disastrous cuts to pay and benefits proposed. Among other changes, the proposal seeks to increase all feds' pension contributions, reduce the CSRS COLA, eliminate the FERS COLA altogether, eliminate the FERS annuity supplement, and change retirement from high 3 to a high 5. [Click here](#) to weigh in and let your Members of Congress know we continue to oppose these cuts!
- We are also pushing for the Federal Adjustment of Income Rates (FAIR Act), which would provide for a 3.6 percent pay raise for all feds in 2020. [Click here](#) to find an action letter supporting the FAIR Act. As you know, the administration is once again pursuing a pay freeze. It is time for feds to stop worrying about shutdowns and pay freezes and instead feel empowered in their duties in serving their Constitutionally-mandated missions.

If you have not done so already, please take a moment to send an action letter on any of these issues, and urge your fellow FMA members to send one as well! And please be on the lookout for an action alert on the FERS Service Credit buy back issue, an FMA issue brief, which we expect to be introduced in Congress soon!

FMA-PAC Smashes Records at Convention



The FMA-PAC raffle is one of the highlights of the National Convention every year as each chapter in attendance brings gifts from their home chapter to raffle off to those who contribute to FMA-PAC. FMA-PAC also contributes a few grand prizes to make the occasion even more festive. As a reminder, members do not need to be in attendance to win the raffle because it includes anyone who contributes to FMA-PAC throughout the year.

During FMA's 81st Convention, FMA-PAC received record-breaking contributions, both in the forms of individual contributions and payroll deductions! We are grateful to everyone who contributed and understands the importance of FMA-PAC. A special thanks has to be given to our incredible PAC chair, Pauline Coleman-Sutton, who set up the PAC raffle and encouraged so much giving throughout the Convention. Thank you all for your generosity!

As a reminder, filling out a payroll deduction form is the easiest way to contribute to FMA-PAC, but not the only way. Please [click here](#) or go to the PAC page at fedmanagers.org to make an individual contribution. To learn more about FMA-PAC, [click here](#).

Public Service Recognition Week!

I hope you take a moment to recognize Public Service Recognition Week, which is May 5-11 this year. If you are in the Washington, D.C., area, [sign up](#) for the annual 5K run/walk! Otherwise, click on [this link](#) to learn about ways you can celebrate across the country. This is a wonderful time to shine a spotlight on all the good that federal employees do on behalf of the country day in and day out.

To Do List:

- [Send an action letter](#)
- [Begin a payroll deduction contribution to FMA-PAC](#)
- Ask your chapter leaders about joining them on their next visit with senators and local representatives**
- Visit www.fedmanagers.org to catch up on the latest news affecting federal managers!**

Very truly yours,

Greg

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