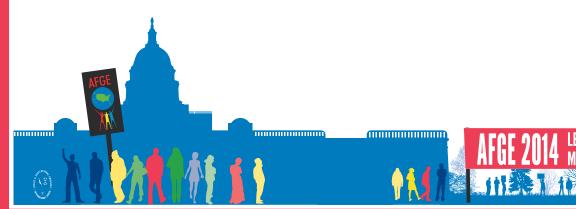
2013 VOTING RECORD

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES, AFL-CIO





INTRODUCTION

The American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO, is the nation's largest federal employee union, representing more than 650,000 federal and D.C. government workers nationwide and overseas. Workers in virtually every function of government depend upon AFGE for legislative advocacy, legal representation, technical expertise, and informational services.

AFGE is proud to represent federal and D.C. government workers because they are the vital threads of the fabric of American life. Government workers inspect the food we eat and the places we work. They protect citizens from the illicit flow of drugs, maintain the safety of our nation's borders, and keep the national defense systems prepared for any danger. They care for our nation's veterans and serve as a vital link to Social Security recipients.

AFGE takes seriously its responsibility to protect the rights of the working and middle class Americans who make up the federal and D.C. workforces. The union believes the best way to improve government's effectiveness and efficiency is to treat federal and D.C. workers as valuable resources rather than easy targets.

Federal labor unions, including AFGE, are not currently afforded the same full-scope collective bargaining rights as unions representing private sector workers. For this reason, AFGE relies on a comprehensive legislative and political action program to deal with issues that affect the federal and D.C. workforces. When Congress tackles government employee pay and benefit issues or debates funding of vital government programs, AFGE is on the scene representing its members.

The 2013 Voting Record shows where House and Senate lawmakers stood on the issues that were most important to federal and D.C. workers, as well as other working Americans, during the first session of the 113th Congress. While the 2013 Voting Record is an important tool in monitoring the actions of Congress, it is important to recognize that it is not the sole reflection of a lawmaker's record. The 2013 Voting Record is neither an endorsement nor a condemnation of any Member of Congress.

For more information, please contact AFGE's Legislative and Political Action Department at (202) 639-6413.

1. Superstorm Sandy Supplemental Appropriations – Vote #23

AFGE supported the FY 2013 Disaster Supplemental Appropriations Act (H.R. 152), a bill that would provide \$50.5 billion in disaster relief assistance for communities in northeastern United States devastated by Superstorm Sandy.

Superstorm Sandy was one of the largest storms on record, and it occurred in our nation's most populous region. Over 650,000 homes and 427,500 businesses were adversely affected, and hundreds of thousands of families were in desperate need of immediate assistance. In addition to homes and businesses, critical infrastructure – tunnels, subways, and electrical systems – sustained serious damage, and they too needed to be rebuilt or repaired.

AFGE supported H.R. 152 because the federal government has a responsibility to provide assistance to these families, homeowners, and businesses so they can rebuild and recover. We also supported this disaster relief appropriations bill because we represent the federal employees who work at FEMA, EPA, HUD, SSA, and the other federal agencies whose duties and responsibilities dramatically increased as a result of Superstorm Sandy.

The House passed H.R. 152 on January 15, 2013, by a 241-180 vote (R: 49-179; D: 192-1). *A "Yes" vote in support of H.R. 152 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

2. Federal Employee Pay Freeze – Vote #44

AFGE opposed H.R. 273, a bill sponsored by Rep. Ron DeSantis (R-FL-6) that would extend the existing two-and-a-quarter year pay freeze for federal employees through December 31, 2013.

This vote was about whether working and middle class Americans who take care of our veterans, who guard our borders, who maintain our military's hardware, and who keep our environment and workplace safe and healthy should receive a belated and modest 0.5% pay increase after a freeze of more than two years.

For lower- and middle-grade federal employees, the impact of H.R. 273 would be harsh:

- A GS-3 nursing assistant earning \$27,322 while working in a VA hospital psychiatric ward would go three years without a pay raise.
- A GS-5 USDA meat and poultry inspector earning \$31,825 while protecting American families from E.coli and other deadly diseases caused by contaminated meat would go three years without a pay raise.
- A GS-7 federal correctional officer earning \$38,790 while managing ruthless gang leaders in dangerously understaffed federal prisons would go three years without a pay raise.

The House passed H.R. 273 on February 15, 2013, by a 261-154 vote (R: 218-10; D: 43-144). *A "No" vote in opposition to H.R. 273 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

3. Reauthorization of Violence Against Women Act – Vote #55.

AFGE supported the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (S. 47), a five-year renewal of the 1994 law aimed at preventing domestic and sexual violence and helping victims through a range of programs.

While the 1994 law itself has always enjoyed broad bipartisan support in Congress, its renewal was the subject of a bitter debate in 2012 and early 2013 as Democrats and Republicans sparred over a handful of contentious new provisions. Democrats supported – and Republicans opposed – provisions intended to help domestic violence victims who are gay and lesbian, illegal immigrants, and Native Americans.

House Speaker John Boehner (R-OH-8), relented in February 2013 and brought S. 47 to the floor – even though a majority of his own party would vote against the bill. The vote marked an unusual instance in which the Speaker broke the so-called Hastert rule, an informal practice in which he has declined to bring legislation to the floor unless it has the support of a majority of House Republicans.

The House passed S. 47 on February 28, 2013, by a 286-138 vote (R: 87-138; D: 199-0). *A "Yes" vote in support of S. 47 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

4. Federal Employee Pay Freeze & Furloughs – Vote #62

AFGE opposed the FY 2013 Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act (H.R. 933) because – while it averted a federal government shutdown in late March 2013 – the bill: (a) extended the federal employee pay freeze for the remainder of calendar year 2013 and (b) allowed the across-the-board cuts required by the March 1, 2013 sequester order to be made, resulting in employee furloughs in dozens of federal agencies, and hiring freezes and other drastic reductions in agency programs.

The House passed H.R. 933 on March 6, 2013 by a 267-151 vote (R: 214-14; D: 53-137). *A "No" vote in opposition to H.R. 933 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

5. House FY 2014 Budget Resolution – Vote #88

AFGE opposed the House FY 2014 Budget Resolution (H.Con.Res. 25), a sweeping budget plan devised by House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan (R-WI-1).

The Ryan budget proposed a dramatic "reverse-Robin-Hood" approach with a large share of its spending cuts coming from programs for modest-income Americans while providing extremely large tax cuts to the wealthiest Americans. According to the nonpartisan Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, the Ryan budget "would likely produce the largest redistribution of income from bottom to top in modern U.S. history."

With regard to federal employees, the Ryan 2014 budget would make draconian cuts to federal employee pensions – thereby saving \$132 billion over ten years - by requiring current employees to increase their contributions to retirement by 5.5% of salary:

- FERS employees hired before 2013 would go from paying 0.8% of salary to their pensions to 6.3% of salary to their pensions, and
- CSRS employees would go from paying 7% of their salary to their pensions to 12.5% of salary to their pensions.

The Ryan budget also would reduce the federal workforce by 10% using attrition, and assumes discretionary spending savings of \$49 billion over ten years.

The House passed the Ryan 2014 budget on March 21, 2013, by a 221-207 vote (R: 221-10; D: 0-197). *A "No" vote in opposition to H.Con.Res. 25 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

6. Creating Uncertainty at the National Labor Relations Board – Vote #101

AFGE opposed H.R. 1120, introduced by Rep. Phil Roe (R-TN-1), a bill that would limit the actions of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) that require a quorum of members - including issuing rules, enforcing decisions or appointing personnel, - until the legal controversy over President Obama's three recess appointments to the NLRB is resolved.

The case, *Noel Canning v. NLRB*, started as an ordinary labor dispute between a soft-drink bottling company in Washington State and the local union over a contracted pay raise. The NLRB ruled for the union in February 2012. The company appealed, arguing that the decision was invalid because President Obama had illegally used his recess-appointment power to install on January 4, 2012, three of the Board's five members – Democrats Sharon Block and Richard Griffin, and Republican Terence Flynn.

On January 25, 2013, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia decided in *Noel Canning v. NLRB* that President Obama had overstepped his constitutional authority in making the three recess appointments to the NLRB. The court also ruled that presidents could make recess appointments only between annual sessions of Congress when the Senate has formally recessed pursuant to an adjournment resolution.

H.R. 1120 would require the NLRB to cease all activity requiring a quorum of three members until: (a) the Senate confirms a full five-member board – a great uncertainty given the Senate Republicans use of procedural tactics to block many of President Obama's nominations, or (b) the Supreme Court rules on the constitutionality of the President's three recess appointments – a more certain option, albeit not an expeditious one.

H.R. 1120 also would prevent the NLRB from enforcing any quorum-established decisions made after President Obama made his recess appointments on January 4, 2012 – approximately 569 decisions.

The House passed H.R. 1120 on April 12, 2013, by a 219-209 vote (R: 219-10; D: 0-199). *A "No" in opposition to H.R. 1120 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

7. Federal Employment and Tax Delinquency – Vote #105

AFGE opposed the Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act of 2013 (H.R. 249), a bill that would make any person who has seriously delinquent tax debts ineligible for federal employment or to continue serving as a federal employee.

AFGE believes that all federal employees, like all Americans, must pay their legally required amount of taxes. We also believe that:

- The overwhelming majority of federal employees take their income tax obligations seriously. According to the Internal Revenue Service, more than 96 percent of federal employees pay their taxes on time and do not owe money to the federal government.
- H.R. 249 was a largely symbolic bill. Both the IRS and the employing federal agency already have sufficient legal authorities to take appropriate action in cases involving a federal employee with a tax delinquency.
- A tax delinquency will be more likely to be paid if an employee continues in federal government service and makes good faith efforts to pay the debt.

The House failed to agree to a motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 249 on April 15, 2013, by a 250-159 (R: 215-7; D: 35-152). A motion to suspend the rules requires a two-thirds majority (281 yeas) to pass the House. *A "No" vote in opposition to H.R.* 249 is counted as the "Right" vote.

8. Providing Compensatory Time for Private Sector Employees – Vote #137

AFGE opposed H.R. 1406, introduced by Rep. Martha Roby (R-AL-2), because it:

(a) Would undermine the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), which for 75 years has helped protect American workers.

The FLSA's requirement that hourly, non-exempt workers be paid time-and-a-half for every hour of work over 40 hours per week – thereby making overtime more expensive – is intended to discourage employers from overworking employees and encourage them to hire additional workers when workloads increase. H.R. 1406, by contrast, would encourage employers to demand longer hours from employees and discourage them from hiring additional workers because it would allow employers to receive the

benefits of overtime work at no additional cost. Employers could pay workers nothing at all for overtime work when the work is performed, and schedule compensatory time during periods when workloads decrease.

- (b) Would not provide a meaningful remedy to an employee who accepts compensatory time in lieu of overtime pay as a result of employer intimidation or coercion.
- H.R. 1406 provides that an employer shall not intimidate or coerce an employee for the purpose of (1) interfering with such employee's right to request or not request compensatory time in lieu of overtime pay or (2) requiring any employee to use such compensatory time. The bill, however, provides the coerced or intimidated employee with an ineffectual remedy: the right to sue the employer for twice the value of each hour of compensatory time accrued by the employee. An employee who fears his or her employer enough that he or she accedes to intimidation or coercion in the first place is the least likely to initiate litigation afterwards. And the idea that such an unlikely lawsuit for such a small amount of money would ever deter employer intimidation or coercion is not realistic.
- (c) <u>Would provide that an employee's use of compensatory time would be effectively</u> left to the employer's discretion.
- H.R. 1406 provides that an employee who has requested the use of his or her compensatory time shall be permitted by the employer to use such time "[1] within a reasonable period after making the request [2] if the use of the compensatory time does not unduly disrupt the operations of the employer." The bill, however, fails to define these two phrases giving the employer the power to define them and therefore the absolute discretion to accept or deny any compensation time request. And again the employee's only remedy is to sue his or her employer, an exercise in futility given the small amount of money involved and the fact that his or her compensation time request would be moot long before the litigation is concluded.
- (d) <u>Would fail to protect an employee's banked overtime earnings against loss due to the employer going out of business or bankrupt.</u>
- H.R. 1406 provides that an employee who has accrued compensatory time shall upon the voluntary or involuntary termination of employment be paid for the unused compensatory time. The bill, however, fails to protect such an employee against the loss of his or her unused compensatory time if the employer goes out of business or bankrupt. As a result, an employee could lose up to 160 hours per employee or more than \$2,200 for a typical employee. (Based on the median hourly wage of \$14.12 for an hourly employee aged 25+ in 2011, as reported in the U.S. Bureau of Statistics.)
- (e) <u>Incorrectly assumes that the federal government and the private sector are comparable</u>.

Proponents of H.R. 1406 sometimes argue that since federal government employees can receive compensatory time in lieu of overtime pay – and do so without any problems – private sector employees should be allowed to do so also. However, the fact is that federal government employees experience a significant number of problems both in getting compensatory time approved and in being able to use the compensatory time within the allowable one-year period. In addition, federal government and the private sector are not comparable. Unlike private employers, federal government agencies do not operate on a profit motive; unlike private employers, federal government agencies do not go bankrupt; and unlike many private sector employees, most federal government workers are represented by labor unions and the civil service system.

The House passed H.R. 1406 on May 8, 2013, by a 223-204 vote (R: 220-8; D: 3-196). *A "No" vote in opposition to H.R. 1406 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

9. Repealing Health Care Reform – Vote #154

AFGE opposed H.R. 6079, a bill sponsored by Michele Bachmann (R-MN-6) that would repeal the Affordable Care Act (P.L. 111-148), sometimes referred to as Obamacare.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) was signed into law by President Obama on March 23, 2010, and upheld as constitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court on June 28, 2012. It makes substantial changes in three critical areas:

- (a) <u>Institutes essential reforms in the health insurance markets</u>. The ACA includes long overdue reforms that are intended to rein in harmful insurance industry practices, such as denying coverage to people with pre-existing health conditions, rescinding health insurance coverage when beneficiaries become ill, or imposing annual or lifetime limits on health insurance coverage, thereby refusing to pay the full cost of beneficiaries' medical care.
- (b) Expands the availability of affordable health insurance coverage. The ACA extends health insurance coverage to 32 million more Americans, thereby increasing the share of insured Americans from 83% now to 95% in 2019. This robust coverage gain reflects provisions that (1) significantly extend Medicaid to all low-income individuals under age 65, (2) provide premium subsidies to help low- and moderate-income individuals purchase health insurance in the new health insurance exchanges, and (3) allow young people to remain covered by their parents' health insurance plans until they turn 26 years of age.
- (c) <u>Slowing the growth of health care costs</u>. The ACA contains a wide range of measures that will slow the growth of health care costs, particularly Medicare costs. For example, it substantially scales back the overpayments that private insurance companies receive through Medicare Advantage, saving \$132 billion over ten years.

The House passed H.R. 45 on May 16, 2013, by a 229-195 vote (R: 227-0; D: 2-195).

A "No" vote in opposition to H.R. 45 is counted as the "Right" vote.

10. Swaps Jurisdiction Certainty Act – Vote #218

AFGE opposed the Swaps Jurisdiction Certainty Act (H.R. 1256), introduced by Rep. Scott Garrett (R-NJ-5), because it would undermine the framework Congress put in place in the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 to prevent risky derivatives trading from contributing to another global financial crisis.

In particular, H.R. 1256 would impose a major new procedural hurdle that would impede the Commodity Futures Trading Commission's (CFTC's) ability to move forward with effective rules designed to prevent risks that arise from overseas derivatives trading.

As was seen with the American International Group (AIG) and Lehman Brothers a few years ago, U.S. financial institutions can easily conduct derivatives transactions outside the U.S. borders that put the U.S. economy at risk. With this in mind, Congress granted the CFTC, which regulates around 90 percent of the U.S. derivatives market, authority to oversee derivatives transactions that "have a direct and significant connection with activities in, or effect on, commerce of the United States."

The CFTC has issued proposed guidance that strikes an appropriate balance between (a) protecting U.S. taxpayers and the U.S. economy and (b) allowing overseas subsidiaries of U.S. banks to be regulated under "substituted compliance" by their local regulator when the CFTC makes a specific determination that the relevant foreign rules are as strong as the U.S. rules.

Unfortunately, H.R. 1256 would seriously undermine the CFTC's ability to protect U.S. taxpayers from risks that arise from overseas derivatives trading by creating a presumption that these transactions are exempt from U.S. regulation. To overcome this presumption, the CFTC and the Securities and Exchange Commission would be required to determine that the foreign country rules are not "broadly comparable" to U.S. rules.

The CFTC's ability to effectively oversee offshore derivatives transactions that create risks to the U.S. economy is central to whether Dodd-Frank is ultimately successful in mitigating the risks in the derivatives markets that nearly brought down the economy five years ago.

The House passed H.R. 1256 on June 12, 2013, by a 301-124 vote (R: 228-2; D: 73-122). *A "No" vote in opposition to H.R. 1256 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

11. OMB Circular A-76 and the Department of Defense – Vote #225

AFGE opposed an amendment offered by Rep. Scott Rigell (R-VA-2) to the FY 2014 National Defense Authorization Act (H.R. 1960) that would lift the existing moratorium

on the use of OMB Circular A-76 privatization process at the Department of Defense (DoD).

Congress originally imposed a government-wide moratorium on the use of the OMB Circular A-76 process because of various long-standing problems in the process identified by the DoD Inspector General and the Government Accountability Office. Those have not been corrected – which is why the Office of Management and Budget opposes amendments to revive the A-76 process.

The use of the A-76 process was made illegal at DoD specifically because the Department had failed to comply with a requirement imposed in the FY 2008 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to establish an inventory of its service contracts and then integrate the results into the budget process so that service contract costs can be as transparent and easily controlled as civilian personnel costs. Rep. Rigell's amendment would eliminate the incentive for DoD to ever complete the inventory so it can better police against waste, fraud, and abuse in the \$200 billion it spends annually on contract services.

The House rejected the Rigell amendment on June 13, 2013, by a 178-248 vote (R: 177-55; D: 1-193). *A "No" vote in opposition to the Rigell amendment is counted as a "Right" vote.*

12. Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act (REINS Act) – Vote #445

AFGE opposed H.R. 367, the Regulations from the Executive in Need of Scrutiny Act (REINS Act) because it is an extreme measure that would make it virtually impossible for agencies to issue any meaningful rules, threatening the health and safety or workers and the public.

The REINS Act would radically alter the regulatory process by requiring Congress to vote to approve all major rules before they can go into effect. Rules not affirmatively acted on by both the House and the Senate within 70 legislative days would die. Under the REINS Act, politics, not scientific judgment or expertise would dictate all regulator actions. Corporate opposition and influence would swamp the public's interest and block needed protections.

The REINS Act would cripple a regulatory process that already causes excessive delays in the issuance of crucial worker and public protections. For example, the 2010 Occupational Safety and Health Administration's construction safety standard on cranes and derricks took 10 years to finalize, even though this rule had unanimous support from industry and labor. Under the REINS Act, congressional inaction could simply kill such common sense rules.

The House passed H.R. 367 on August 2, 2013, by a 232-183 vote (R: 226-0; D: 6-183). *A "No" vote in opposition to H.R. 367 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

13. Cutting federal food assistance to jobless and low-wage workers - Vote #476

AFGE opposed H.R. 3102, introduced by Rep. Frank Lucas ((R-OK-3), because it would have an extremely adverse impact on the millions of hungry individuals and families who rely on the federal food assistance provided by the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):

- H.R. 3102 would deprive hungry individuals and families of SNAP federal food assistance by reducing funding for the program by \$40 billion over ten years and denying SNAP assistance to millions of low-income Americans. This legislation would have a devastating effect as over 80% of households receiving SNAP benefits already have gross incomes below the poverty line, while over 40% have gross incomes that are less than half the poverty line.
- H.R. 3102 would particularly hurt jobless and low-wage workers who want to earn a
 decent living but cannot find enough work in our weak economy or earn enough to
 make ends meet. It would encourage states to require parents with children over the
 age of one to work or participate in a training program for a minimum of 20 hours a
 week. However, despite the scarcity of jobs that pay a living wage or part-time jobs
 that offer enough hours, H.R. 3102 provides no funds to create any training
 programs or jobs.

The House passed H.R. 3102 on September 19, 2013, by a 217-210 vote (R: 217-15; D: 0-195). *A "No" vote in opposition to H.R. 3102 is counted as the "Right" vote.*

14. FY 2014 Continuing Appropriations Resolution – Vote #478

AFGE opposed the FY 2014 Continuing Appropriations Resolution (H.J. Res. 59), a short-term spending bill with which House Republicans threatened to shut down the federal government unless their demand – the defunding of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) of 2010 - was met.

Congress has a constitutional responsibility to finance the government and keep it solvent. That essential responsibility should not be used as a ransom demand to force the President to defund or delay the ACA.

The House passed H.J.Res. 59 on September 20, 2013, by a 230-189 vote (R: 228-1; D: 2-188). *A "No" vote in opposition to H.J. Res. 59 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

15. Retroactive Pay for Furloughed Federal Employees – Vote #525

AFGE supported the Federal Employee Retroactive Pay Fairness Act (H.R. 3223), a bill that would provide retroactive pay to the 800,000 federal employees who had been furloughed during the federal government shutdown that began October 1, 2013.

This bipartisan bill was introduced by Rep. Jim Moran (D-VA-8) on September 30, 2013, and it was cosponsored by more than 175 House lawmakers, including Reps. Frank Wolf (R-VA-10). Rob Wittman (R-VA-1), Scott Rigell (R-VA-2), Randy Forbes (R-VA-4), and Rob Bishop (R-UT-1).

While the Congress and the President struggled to come to agreement on a budget, there was no reason to punish federal employees by arbitrarily slashing their paychecks. The issues being debated by the Congress and the President were significant, but so are the interests of the working- and middle-class Americans who make up the federal workforce as well as their families. Determinations of which federal employees are allowed to continue working during lapses in appropriations are often random if not political. What can't be questioned, however, is the eagerness of all civil servants to continue serving the American people.

The House passed H.R. 3223 on October 5, 2013, by a 407-0 vote (R: 218-0; D: 189-0). *A "Yes" in support of H.R. 3223 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

16. Deficit Reduction and Economic Growth Working Group Act – Vote #534

AFGE opposed the Deficit Reduction and Economic Growth Working Group Act (H.R. 3273), which is based on an earlier "supercommittee" established by the Budget Control Act of 2011.

That "supercommittee" deliberated for months but its failure to reach agreement resulted only in the imposition of sequestration – which has devastated federal agencies for the past 6 months or more and caused furloughing of hundreds of thousands of federal employees for over a week.

Federal employees furloughed by sequestration cuts are still reeling from that financial hit -- that is money they will never get back for their families. The imposition of another furlough – the probable result of another deficit reduction working group – so soon thereafter is nothing short of unmerciful.

The House passed H.R. 3273 on October 8, 2013, by a 224-197 vote (R: 222-5; D: 2-192). *A "No" vote in opposition to H.R. 3273 is counted as the "Right" vote.*

17. Retroactively Paying "Essential" Federal Employees – Vote #535

AFGE supported the Federal Worker Pay Fairness Act (H.J.Res. 89), a joint resolution that would appropriate such sums as necessary to pay the salaries of federal employees working during the federal government shutdown.

We greatly appreciated the bipartisan support for making sure those "essential" federal employees and their families were not unfairly punished by the political stalemate over the budget. Rep. Ander Crenshaw (R-FL-4) voiced the thoughts of many when he said on the House floor:

"What this bill does is simply say, as long as this shutdown is going on, until it ends, the people that come to work every day deserve to be paid. They deserve to be paid on time. Remember, the people who come to work every day, they're just like everybody else. They've got bills to pay. They've got mortgage payments they've got to make. They've got to pay their rent. They've got to make car payments. They've got to pay their utility bills. They've got mouths to feed back home. There is no reason that they should be punished because the Democrats and the Republicans and the White House can't agree how to move forward on funding the Federal Government."

The House passed H.J. Res. 89 on October 8, 2013, by a 420-0 vote (R:226-0; D: 194-0). *A "Yes" vote in support of H.J.Res 89 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

18. Continuing Appropriations to End Government Shutdown, Suspend Debt Limit and Retroactively Pay Furloughed Federal Employees – Vote #550

AFGE supported this House "motion to concur" with a Senate amendment to H.R. 2775 – to suspend the statutory debt limit and fund federal government operations for several months in order to prevent the threat of government default and to end the partial government shutdown – thereby providing time for negotiations on broader budget issues to occur.

Essentially, the House "concurred" with the Senate on three issues:

- They would provide continuing appropriations for government operations through January 15, 2014, reflecting an annual discretionary level of about \$986 billion.
- They would allow federal borrowing to continue through February 7, 2014, after the
 President certifies that the Treasury cannot pay its obligations, and would set up an
 expedited process for Congress to consider resolutions of disapproval for the debt
 limit increase authorized by the bill.
- They would provide for retroactive pay for federal employees who worked through the government shutdown that began on October 1, 2013 and for workers furloughed during that time.

The House passed this measure on October 16, 2013, by a 285-144 vote (R: 87-144; D: 198-0). *A "Yes" vote in support of this "motion to concur" is counted as a "Right" vote.*

19. FERS Employee Contribution Increase in Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 – Vote #640

AFGE opposed H.J. Res. 59, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013, because it increased the required FERS employee contribution by an additional 1.3% for new employees first hired after December 31, 2013.

New federal employees who are hired after December 31, 2013, will be required to contribute 4.4% to their basic annuities. New federal employees with "special responsibilities" - law enforcement officers, firefighters, etc. - who are hired after December 31, 2013, will be required to contribute 4.9% to their basic annuities.

Here is a chart that clarifies the new FERS employee contribution increases:

Federal Employee Contributions to FERS – Basic Annuity and Social Security

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Category of Federal	Hired before January	Hired after December	New Budget Deal:
Employee	1, 2013	31, 2012 and before	Hired after December
		January 1, 2014	31, 2013
Employee	0.8% - Basic annuity	3.1% - Basic annuity	4.4% - Basic annuity
	6.2% - Social Security	6.2% - Social Security	6.2% - Social Security
	7.0% - Total	9.3% - Total	10.6% - Total
Law enforcement	1.3% - Basic annuity	3.6% - Basic annuity	4.9% - Basic annuity
officer, firefighter,	6.2% - Social Security	6.2% - Social Security	6.2% - Social Security
member of Capitol	7.5% - Total	9.8% - Total	11.1% - Total
Police, member of the			
Supreme Court Police,			
or air traffic controller			

The House passed H.J. Res. 59 on December 12, 2013, by a 332-94 vote (R: 169-62; D: 163-32). *A "No" vote in opposition to H.J.Res. 59 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

AFGE Score (%)			7	2	1	21	5 6	83		47		32	16	16	77		79	79	92	16	7	7	92	16	79		7	92	84	21
ERS Employee Contribution Increase	E	_	>	≯	8	œ	8	8		>		œ	≯	≯	<u>~</u>		8	≯	<u>~</u>	<u>~</u>	œ	œ	≯	œ	≯		>	≯	≯	œ
pprops to End Gov't Shutdown	A	_	≥	≥	≥	≥	~	∝		<u>~</u>		<u>~</u>	~	<u>~</u>	~		~	∝	~	≥	≥	≥	~	≥	∝		≥	∝	<u>~</u>	≯
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	Parry Legislator Name	Bradley Byrne	Martha Roby	Michael Rogers	Robert Aderholt	ooks	Spencer Bachus	sewell		guno		Rick Crawford	riffin	Stephen Womack	otton		Ann Kirkpatrick	arber	Raul Grijalva	osar	Matt Salmon	David Schweikert	stor	Frent Franks	Kyrsten Sinema		Doug LaMalfa	Jared Huffman	John Garamendi	Tom McClintock
	Legis	Bradle	Marth	Micha	Rober	Mo Brooks	Spenc	Terri Sewell		Don Young		Rick C	Tim Griffin	Steph	Tom Cotton		Ann K	Ron Barber	Raul (Paul Gosar	Matt S	David	Ed Pastor	Trent	Kyrste		Dond	Jared	John (Tom N
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	endNotes																											
	AFGE Score (%)	89	74	95	100	16	95	89	21	100	84	7	84	89	16	5 6	16	84	74	83		84	63	21	5 6	1	26	84
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	Party			Ω	Ω	~	Ω	Ω	~	Ω	Ω	~	Ω	Ω	~	~	∝	Ω	Ω	Ω		Ω	Ω	<u>~</u>	~	~	~	Ω
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	Party Legislator Name	John Larson	Joseph Courtney	Rosa DeLauro	Jim Himes	Elizabeth Esty		John Carney		Jeff Miller	Steve Southerland	Ted Yoho	Ander Crenshaw	Corrine Brown	Ron DeSantis	John Mica	Bill Posey	Alan Grayson	Daniel Webster	Richard Nugent	Gus Bilirakis	Vacant	Katherine Castor	Dennis Ross	Vern Buchanan	Thomas Rooney	Patrick Murphy	Trey Radel	Alcee Hastings	Ted Deutch
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	State Dist.	01	02	03	04	90	Delaware	AL	Florida	10	02	03	04	90	90	20	80	60	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21

EndNotes																													
AFGE Score (%)	92	84	83	5 6	74	26		5 6	74	16	83	84	16	7	16	16	5 6	32	63	84	16		92	84		83	84	7	16
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Legislator Name	Lois Frankel	Debbie Wasserman-Schultz	Frederica Wilson	Mario Diaz-Balart	Joe Garcia	lleana Ros-Lehtinen		Jack Kingston	Sanford Bishop	Lynn Westmoreland	Hank Johnson	John Lewis	Thomas Price	Rob Woodall	Austin Scott	Doug Collins	Paul Broun	Phil Gingrey	John Barrow	David Scott	Tom Graves		Colleen Hanabusa	Tulsi Gabbard		Bruce Braley	David Loebsack	Tom Latham	Steve King
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Dist.	22	23	24	22	56	27		10	05	03	04	90	90	20	80	60	10	7	12	13	4		0	05		01	05	03	40
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	; :	Party Legislator Name	D Carol Shea-Porter	D Ann Kuster		D Robert Andrews	R Frank LoBiondo	R Jon Runyan	R Christopher Smith		D Frank Pallone	R Leonard Lance	D Albio Sires	D William Pascrell	D Donald Payne	R Rodney Frelinghuysen	D Rush Holt		D Michelle Lujan Grisham		D Ben Lujan		D Tim Bishop	R Pete King	D Steve Israel	D Carolyn McCarthy	D Gregory Meeks	D Grace Meng	D Nydia Velazquez	D Hakeem Jeffries	D Yvette Clarke
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End Notes

- On January 8, 2014, Bradley Byrne became a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. He replaced Jo Bonner who had retired from the House on
- U.S. Representative Bill Young (R-13) passed away on October 18, 2013. A special election for Florida's 13th Congressional District will be held on March 11, 2014, to elect a new member of the U.S. House of Representatives.
- On April 9, 2013, Robin Kelly became a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. She replaced Jesse Jackson, Jr., who had resigned from the On December 10, 2013, Katherine Clark became a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. She replaced Ed Markey, who became the junior House on November 12, 2012.
- On June 4, 2013, Jason Smith became a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. He replaced Jo Ann Emerson, who had resigned from the House on January 22, 2013.

U.S. Senator from Massachusetts on July 16, 2013.

- By tradition, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives does not vote on most legislation that comes before the House.
- On May 7, 2013, Mark Sanford became a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. He replaced Tim Scott, who became the junior U.S. Senator from South Carolina on January 2, 2013.

Senate

1. Superstorm Sandy Supplemental Appropriations – Vote #4

AFGE supported the FY 2013 Disaster Supplemental Appropriations Act (H.R. 152), a bill that would provide \$50.5 billion in disaster relief assistance for communities primarily in northeastern United States devastated by Superstorm Sandy.

Superstorm Sandy was one of the largest storms on record, and it occurred in our nation's most populous region. Over 650,000 homes and 427,500 businesses were adversely affected, and hundreds of thousands of families were in desperate need of immediate assistance. In addition to homes and businesses, critical infrastructure – tunnels, subways, and electrical systems – sustained serious damage, and they too needed to be repaired or rebuilt.

AFGE supported H.R. 152 because the federal government has a responsibility to provide assistance to these families, homeowners, and businesses so they can rebuild and recover. We also supported this disaster relief appropriations bill because we represent the federal employees who work at FEMA, EPA, HUD, SSA, and the other federal agencies whose duties and responsibilities dramatically increased as a result of Superstorm Sandy.

The Senate passed H.R. 152 on January 28, 2013, by a 62-36 vote (D: 52-0; R: 9-36: I: 1-0). *A "Yes" vote in support of H.R. 152 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

2. Reauthorization of Violence Against Women Act – Vote #19

AFGE supported the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (S.47), a five-year renewal of the 1994 law aimed at preventing domestic and sexual violence and helping victims through a wide range of programs.

While the law itself has always enjoyed broad bipartisan support in Congress, its reauthorization was the subject of a bitter debate in 2012 and early 2013 as Democrats and Republicans sparred over a handful of contentious new provisions. Democrats supported – and many Republicans opposed – provisions intended to help domestic violence victims who are gay and lesbian, illegal immigrants, and Native Americans.

The Senate passed the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013 on February 12, 2013, by a 78-22 vote (D: 53-0; R: 23-22; I: 2-0). *A "Yes" vote in support of S. 47 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

3. Repealing Health Care Reform – Vote #34

AFGE opposed an amendment offered by Sen Ted Cruz (R-TX) to the Department of Defense, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, FY 2013 (H.R. 933) that would prohibit the use of federal

appropriations to carry out the Affordable Care Act (P.L.111-148), sometimes referred to as Obamacare.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) which was signed into law by President Obama on March 23, 2010, and upheld as constitutional by the U.S. Supreme Court on June 28, 2012. It makes substantial changes in three critical areas:

- (a) Instituting essential reforms in the health insurance markets. The Affordable Care Act includes long overdue reforms that are intended to rein in harmful insurance industry practices, such as denying coverage to people with pre-existing health conditions, rescinding health insurance coverage when beneficiaries become ill, or imposing annual or lifetime limits on health insurance coverage, thereby refusing to pay the full cost of beneficiaries' medical care.
- (b) Expanding the availability of affordable health insurance coverage. The Affordable Care Act extends health insurance coverage to 32 million more Americans, thereby increasing the share of insured Americans from 83% now to 95% in 2019. This robust coverage gain reflects provisions that (1) significantly extend Medicaid to all low-income individuals under age 65, (2) provide premium subsidies to help low- and moderate-income individuals purchase health insurance in the new state-run health insurance exchanges, and (3) allow young people to remain covered by their parents' health insurance plans until they turn 26 years of age.
- (c) Slowing the growth of health care costs. The Affordable Care Act contains a wide range of measures that will slow the growth of health care costs, particularly Medicare costs. For example, it substantially scales back the overpayments that private insurance companies receive through Medicare Advantage, saving \$132 billion over ten years.

The Senate rejected the Cruz amendment on March 13, 2013, by a 45-52 vote (D:0-50; R: 45-0; I: 0-2). *A "No" vote in opposition to the Cruz amendment is counted as the "Right" vote.*

4. Hiring freeze on "non-essential" federal employees – Vote #37

AFGE opposed an amendment offered by Sen. Tom Coburn (R-OK) to the Department of Defense, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations Act, FY 2013 (H.R. 933) that would have prevented all federal agencies from hiring individuals for "non-essential" functions.

Federal agencies should be managed by budgets and workloads, not arbitrary constraints on the size of their workforce. If lawmakers want agencies to use fewer federal employees, then it is incumbent upon them to identify functions that they no longer want performed and then secure enactment of the necessary legislation.

Congress has irresponsibly allowed spending for agencies to be cut drastically pursuant to a one-size-fits-all sequestration. The only way Congress could make this situation even worse is to impose an indiscriminate prohibition on hiring new staff. If agencies need to use precious post-sequestration dollars to make such hires, then they should be allowed to use that discretion. Agency managers are in a much better position to determine how their precious post-sequestration dollars should be spent in order to fulfill their missions than any U.S. Senator.

Federal agencies are statutorily obligated to provide services. If they are prevented from using federal employees because agencies are indiscriminately prevented from hiring new staff, then they will inevitably turn to more expensive service contractors. Senator Coburn revealed his bias against federal employees by offering an amendment that prevents new in-house hires but imposes no constraints on the \$300 billion agencies spend every year on service contracts. In leaving agencies with no choice but to contract out, the Coburn amendment would actually increase costs to the taxpayers.

The Senate rejected the Coburn amendment on March 14, 2013, by a 45-54 vote (D: 2-50; R: 43-2; I: 0-2). *A "No" vote in opposition to the Coburn amendment is counted as the "Right" vote.*

5. Federal Employee Pay Freeze and Furloughs – Vote #44

AFGE opposed the Department of Defense, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Full-Year Continuing Appropriations bill, 2013 (H.R. 933) because – although it averted a government shutdown in March 2013 – the bill: (a) extended for a third year the existing federal employee pay freeze until December 31, 2013, and (b) allowed across-the-board spending cuts required by the March 1, 2013 sequester order to be made, resulting in federal government-wide employee furloughs.

This vote to extend the federal employee pay freeze for a third year is about whether working and middle class Americans who take care of our veterans, who guard our borders, who maintain our military's hardware, and who keep our environment and workplaces safe and healthy should receive a belated and modest 0.5% pay increase after a freeze of more than two years.

For lower- and middle-grade federal employees, this vote's impact would be harsh:

- A GS-3 nursing assistant earning \$27,322 while working in a VA hospital psychiatric ward would have gone three years without a pay raise.
- A GS-5 USDA meat and poultry inspector earning \$31,825 while protecting American families from E.coli and other deadly diseases caused by contaminated meat would have gone three years without a pay raise.
- A GS-7 federal correctional officer earning \$38,790 while managing ruthless gang leaders in dangerously understaffed federal prisons would have gone three years without a pay raise.

The Senate passed H.R. 933 on March 20, 2013, by a 73-26 vote (D: 51-1; R: 20-25; I: 2-0). *A "No" vote in opposition to H.R. 933 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

6. Eliminate the automatic payroll deduction of union dues for federal employees – Vote #75

AFGE opposed an amendment offered by Senators Tim Scott (R-SC) and Lindsey Graham (R-SC) to the Senate FY 2014 Budget Resolution (S.Con.Res. 8) that would prohibit federal funding from being used by federal agencies to automatically deduct union dues from the pay of federal employees.

The federal government is an open shop, that is, federal employees who are union members have all <u>chosen</u> to pay dues. (Under the 1978 Civil Service Reform Act, a union that has been elected by the non-supervisory employees of an agency is legally bound to represent all employees in a bargaining unit – both those who pay dues and those who do not.) The Scott/Graham amendment proponents claim that eliminating the automatic payroll deduction of union dues for federal employees will reduce the cost of pay administration. However, all pay deductions are done electronically and at no additional cost to the government.

The true intent of the Scott/Graham amendment is to weaken the voice and opportunities federal employees have through collective bargaining to negotiate for better and safer working conditions in federal prisons, in VA hospitals, at Border Patrol stations, in air traffic control towers, at military installations, etc. This is an anti-labor amendment, pure and simple.

The Senate rejected the Scott/Graham amendment on March 22, 2013, by a 56-43 vote (D: 0-52; R: 43-2; 0-2). *A "No" vote in opposition to the Scott/Graham amendment is counted as a "Right" vote.*

7. Senate FY 2014 Budget Resolution – Vote #92

AFGE supported the Senate FY 2014 Budget Resolution (S.Con.Res. 8) because it invests in jobs, repeals the sequester provision of the Budget Control Act of 2011, provides a path to raise additional revenue from the wealthiest 2% of Americans and profitable Wall Street corporations, and includes a level of savings in health care that can and must be achieved without cutting Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security benefits.

In addition, the Senate FY 2014 Budget Resolution does NOT include provisions that cut federal employee pay or benefits, and severely criticizes the House 2014 Budget Resolution's proposals to do so.

The Senate passed S.Con.Res. 8 on March 23, 2013, by a 50-49 vote (D: 48-4; R: 0-45; I: 2-0). *A "Yes" vote in support of S.Con.Res. 8 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

8. Border Security Contractor Pay - Vote #155

AFGE supported an amendment offered by Senator Joe Manchin (D-WV) to the Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act (S. 744) that would cap federal border security contractors' compensation to no more that the annual salary of the Vice President - \$230,700.

The Senate agreed to the Manchin amendment on June 19, 2013, by a 72-26 vote (D: 49-3; R: 21-23; I: 2-0). *A "Yes" vote in support of the Manchin amendment is counted as a "Right" vote.*

9. Nomination of Richard Cordray as Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau – Vote #174

AFGE supported President Obama's nomination of Richard Cordray as Director of the new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB). Mr. Cordray has an outstanding record of protecting the public interest as the former Ohio Attorney General and leader of CFPB's enforcement division. He also has been an effective advocate protecting working families on financial issues, including pensions, abusive home lending practices, and mortgage foreclosures. Mr. Cordray is supported by many Attorneys General, both Republican and Democratic, across the country.

The Senate confirmed the Cordray nomination to be CFPB Director on July 16, 2013, by a 66-34 vote (D: 52-0; R: 12-34; I: 2-0). *A "Yes" vote in support of the Cordray nomination is counted as a "Right" vote.*

10. Nomination of Thomas Perez as Secretary of Labor – Vote #178

AFGE supported President Obama's nomination of Thomas Perez to be U.S. Secretary of Labor. Mr. Perez has an impressive academic resume (graduating with honors from Brown University, Harvard Law School, and the Kennedy School of Government), and could well have chosen a lucrative career in the private sector. Instead, he has had a distinguished career in public service that makes him superbly qualified to lead the U.S. Department of Labor at this critical time.

As Maryland's Secretary of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, Mr. Perez built a strong reputation as a consensus-builder. He spearheaded major initiatives on potentially controversial issues, such as unemployment insurance reform and worker misclassification, while finding common ground between businesses and workers to build sensible, commonsense solutions. His work there has received praise from both the Maryland Chamber of Commerce and the state's labor community.

Mr. Perez - at the time of his nomination - served as U.S. Assistant Attorney General of the Civil Rights Division in the Department of Justice. His leadership has resulted in settlements totaling over \$600 million with lenders who violated the Fair Housing Act, fair and vigorous enforcement of the Voting Rights Act, and increased efforts to protect

the employment rights of service members, so they can return to their jobs after serving their country.

We were pleased to hear Mr. Perez say at his confirmation hearing that his top priority as U.S. Secretary of Labor will be "jobs, jobs, and jobs." He testified that he believes the Department of Labor should play "a critical role in ensuring that American workers have the skills to succeed in a 21st century economy, and that an honest day's work in a safe working environment leads to a decent living."

In addition, we look forward to Mr. Perez's strong leadership in rebuilding the morale of the federal employees who work at the U.S. Department of Labor. Employee job satisfaction there is one of the lowest among large federal agencies, according to the 2012 *Best Places to Work in the Federal Government* rankings produced by the Partnership for Public Service and Deloitte.

The Senate confirmed the Perez nomination to be U.S. Secretary of Labor on July 18, 2013 by a 54-46 vote (D: 52-0; R: 0-46; I: 2-0). *A "Yes" vote in support of the Perez nomination is counted as a "Right" vote.*

11. FY 2014 Continuing Appropriations Resolution – Vote #209

AFGE supported the Senate Democratic version of the FY 2014 Continuing Appropriations Resolution (H.J.Res. 59) to keep federal agencies funded into FY 2014 – without accepting House Republican attempts to defund the Affordable Care Act and to prioritize debt payments in the event of a government default.

The Senate Democratic version also shortened the term of the stopgap to November 15 from December 15 in a bid to spur negotiations to draft an omnibus spending bill that would replace the automatic cuts known as sequestration for the next two fiscal years.

The Senate passed the Senate Democratic version of H.J. Res. 59 on September 27, 2013 by a 54-44 vote (D:52-0; R: 0-44; I: 2-0). *A "Yes" vote in support of the Senate Democratic version of H.J.Res.* 59 is counted as a "Right" vote.

12. Continuing appropriations to end government shutdown, suspend debt limit, and retroactively pay federal employees. – Vote #219

AFGE supported the FY 2014 Continuing Appropriations Act (H.R. 2775), a bill to suspend the statutory debt limit and fund federal government operations for several months in order to prevent the threat of government default and to end the partial government shutdown – thereby providing time for negotiations on broader budget issues to occur.

Under this measure, the federal government would be funded through January 15, 2014, at the sequester-reduced levels in effect at the end of FY 2013, while the Treasury Department's borrowing authority to finance government operations will be

extended through February 7, 2014. It also provided retroactive back pay for those federal employees who worked through the government shutdown that began on October 1, 2013, and for workers furloughed during that time.

The Senate passed H.R. 2775 on October 16, 2013 by an 81-18 vote. (D: 52-0; R: 27-18; I: 2-0). *A "Yes" vote in support of H.R. 2775 is counted as a "Right" vote.*

13. Nomination of Richard Griffin, Jr. to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board – Vote #222

AFGE supported President Obama's nomination of Richard Griffin, Jr. to be the General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) for a 4-year term.

Mr. Griffin is superbly qualified for this job because he has a deep knowledge of labor law and decades of practical experience. Mr. Griffin:

- Served as a NLRB Board Member from January 9, 2012 through August 2, 2013.
- Served as General Counsel for the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE).
- Served on the Board of Directors for the AFL-CIO Lawyers Coordinating Committee, a position he held since 1994.
- Since 1983, Mr. Griffin has held a number of leadership positions with IUOE from Assistant House Counsel to Associate General Counsel.
- From 1985 to 1994, Mr. Griffin served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the IUOE's central pension fund.
- From 1981 to 1983, he served as Counsel of NLRB Board Members.
- Holds a B.A. from Yale University and J.D. from Northeastern University School of Law.

The Senate confirmed the Griffin nomination to be NLRB General Counsel on October 29, 2013, by a 55-44 vote (D: 52-0; R: 1-44; I: 2-0). *A "Yes" vote in support of the Griffin nomination is counted as a "Right" vote.*

14. Employment Non-Discrimination Act of 2013 – Vote #232

AFGE supported the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) of 2013 (S. 815) because it is a critical step toward ensuring access to jobs for all Americans. The bill prohibits employers, employment agencies, labor organization, or joint labor-management committee from engaging in employment discrimination on the basis of an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity.

The Senate passed ENDA on November 7, 2013, by a vote of 64-43 (D: 52-0; R: 10-32; I: 2-0). *A "Yes" vote in support of ENDA is counted as a "Right" vote.*

15. FERS Contribution Increase in Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 – Vote #281

AFGE opposed H.J. Res. 59, the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 (H.J.Res. 59), because it increased the required FERS employee contribution by an additional 1.3 percentage points for new employees first hired after December 31, 2013. The amended FERS contribution rate is 4.4% for "regular" federal employees and 4.9% for law enforcement officers and firefighters.

Here is a chart that clarifies the FERS contribution increases:

Federal Employee Contributions to FERS – Basic Annuity and Social Security

Category of Federal Employee	Hired before January 1, 2013	Hired after December 31, 2012 and before January 1, 2014	New Budget Deal: Hired after December 31, 2013
Employee	0.8% - Basic annuity 6.2% - Social Security 7.0% - Total	3.1% - Basic annuity 6.2% - Social Security 9.3% - Total	4.4% - Basic annuity 6.2% - Social Security 10.6% - Total
Law enforcement officer, firefighter, member of Capitol Police, member of the Supreme Court Police, or air traffic controller	1.3% - Basic annuity 6.2% - Social Security 7.5% - Total	3.6% - Basic annuity 6.2% - Social Security 9.8% - Total	4.9% - Basic annuity 6.2% - Social Security 11.1% - Total

The Senate passed Bipartisan Budget Act if 2013 on December 18, 2013 by a 64-36 vote (D: 53-0; R: 9-36; I: 2-0). A "No" vote in opposition to the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2013 is counted as a "Right" vote.

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On July 16, 2013, Edward Markey became a member of the U.S. Senate. He replaced Mo Cowan, who had been appointed January 30, 2013, by Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick on an interim basis to fill the vacancy left by John Kerry, who had resigned to become Secretary of State.

On October 31, 2013, Cory Booker became a member of the U.S. Senate. He replaced Frank Lautenberg, who passed away on June 3, 2013. 2

Senate

Hiring Freeze on "Non-Essential" Employee:

Federal Employee Pay Freeze/Furloughs

Senate FY 2014 Budget Resolution Union Dues for Federal Employees

Border Security Contractor Pay

Repealing Health Care Reform

Violence Against Women Act

Supersform Sandy Approps

Nomination of Richard Cordray

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