



# **National Treasury Employees Union Legislative Action**

111th Congress 1st Session

## **PAY PARITY FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES**

On February 26, 2009, the President sent to Congress an outline of his FY 2010 budget that recommends a 2 percent pay raise for federal employees and a 2.9 percent raise for military personnel. Unfortunately, these recommendations do not reflect the longstanding principle of pay parity between federal civilian employees and the military. Pay parity, or equal levels of pay increases for both military personnel and the federal civilian workforce, has been a tenet of federal pay policy for most of the last twenty years.

Last year the House of Representatives included bipartisan pay parity language in its Fiscal Year 2009 Budget Resolution that passed the House (H. Con. Res 312) and led to the enactment of an identical pay increase level for both groups. NTEU has long argued that both military personnel and federal civil servants work together, and often side-by-side, in defending our borders, protecting our homeland, keeping our government systems running, protecting our food safety, collecting our revenue, and safeguarding public health. Both groups deserve an equal pay raise level.

Moreover, the Federal Employees Pay Comparability Act (FEPCA), enacted in 1990 to close the gap between federal and private sector pay, has never been fully implemented, leaving a 23 percent disparity between federal employees and their private sector counterparts. Without at least pay parity, federal employees will fall even further behind the private sector. NTEU believes pay parity is a precedent too important to ignore and will work on a bipartisan basis with Congress and the Administration to reinstate the longstanding principle.

**NTEU urges you to support pay parity for federal employees and military personnel.**