



HHS and FDA Employees:

Here is something to think about.

You know that HHS wants to strip your existing contract of 21 current articles. You know that includes the articles that detail AWS and telework.

What you might not know is that nestled among the 21 articles HHS wants to eliminate is the article on health and safety. That article contains a number of protections for employees that would no longer exist. Among them are requirements:

- that NTEU be notified about upcoming renovations that may include pesticides, paint and carpet glue that can impact your health;
- for standing health and safety committees that include management and frontline employees;
- for a timeframe for HHS to respond to health and safety issues you may report; and
- for sharing health and safety reports with NTEU so they can be shared with you.

Since HHS wants you to spend more time in an HHS office (due to a lack of telework and AWS), you might think that your safety in those workspaces and full disclosure of issues that impact your health would be important. Clearly, they are not.

As a reminder, HHS' purported reasoning for its hardline, take-it-or-leave-it approach (which, by the way, HHS never shared with NTEU because they refused to bargain) is that articles protecting your health and safety are simply too burdensome and take too much administrative time. Do not accept that.

- [Sign the petition](#) demanding that HHS return to the bargaining table.
- Wear black clothing on Wednesday.
- [Send a message](#) to your members of Congress at the Legislative Action Center.
- Wear a Shame on HHS sticker.
- [Tweet Secretary Azar](#) at @SecAzar (Get sample tweets).

Finally, a reminder that NTEU has a quick survey for you. [Take it today](#) and let us know what issues you care most about and what actions you are willing to take to save your contract.

Take our Survey

"...to ensure that every federal employee is treated with dignity and respect."