



January 31, 2023

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the National Treasury Employees Union, which represents approximately 150,000 federal employees in 34 agencies, I am writing in opposition to the SHOW UP Act (**H.R.139**), a bill to restrict federal agency telework programs, which is scheduled to come before the House of Representatives this week. NTEU asks you to vote **NO** on this costly legislation.

H.R.139 would mandate that all federal agencies abandon their cost-saving telework programs and return to their dated telework policies that were in effect in 2019. This would mean, for example, that the NTEU represented Federal Communications Commission (FCC) would be forced to abandon its plan to reduce its leased office space with the savings of \$119 million over the term of the lease. The FCC, a relatively small agency, represents just one example of the money that can be saved through agency telework programs that reduce federal office space. This waste of taxpayer money would be multiplied many times over when mandated on all federal agencies. It would be in direct opposition to innovations such as the \$12.5 million per year savings in leasing costs at the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office (PTO).

In addition to giving tens of millions of dollars of taxpayer money to urban real estate interests, the legislation would further cost the taxpayers through decreased productivity among federal employees. In an April 2021 NTEU Survey, almost two-thirds of responding federal employees said that their productivity increased while teleworking during the pandemic, most of them reporting that productivity increased by a lot.

Beyond the clear benefits to taxpayers in reduced leasing costs and increased productivity, telework and remote work have also helped with employee recruitment, retention and satisfaction. Innovative federal agencies are beginning to use these programs to hire and retain workers across the country, including military spouses who must frequently relocate with their service member spouses. And with full time remote work, some federal jobs have been moved from urban centers to rural and small town America.

I hope we can count on you to oppose this backwards looking legislation and vote NO. [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony M. Reardon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Anthony M. Reardon
National President