



January 7, 2013

On Capitol Hill **NTEU Fights For Federal Employees, Agencies**

An agency with sufficient resources, authority and staffing can better serve and protect the public. NTEU's active legislative program helps to achieve this by educating Congress on the work of NTEU-represented employees and agencies.

President Kelley discussed the upcoming CFPB election on Federal News Radio. [Listen to the interview](#)



To find out more about the union election, visit NTEU's [web page exclusively for CFPB employees](#).

NTEU serves as a **powerful voice** for federal employees in the halls of Congress. Full-time representatives in NTEU's Legislative Department continually monitor legislative issues at NTEU-represented agencies and work closely with key committee and subcommittee staff to ensure lawmakers are briefed on employee views and concerns.

Improving funding and staffing levels is always a high priority. NTEU is knowledgeable about the **funding structures** at the various financial regulatory agencies and makes a strong case for increased funding when necessary. NTEU also advocates for financial regulatory agency funding to remain independent of the general appropriations process.

When an issue of importance is under consideration, NTEU's national president is frequently called to **testify before Congress** on employee issues. Historically, it was NTEU's work on the Hill that won Hatch Act reform, expanded telework and whistleblower rights, to name a few. And, NTEU worked with administration officials to gain premium conversion of health care costs and flexible spending accounts for federal workers.

The union also organizes **grassroots campaigns** across the nation, drawing on the collective voices of federal employees from 31 different federal agencies.

During the **2010 Dodd-Frank Wall Street reform negotiations**, for example, NTEU voiced the interests and perspectives of more than 10,000 NTEU-represented frontline financial regulatory employees and was successful in revising proposed legislation to protect the pay and jobs of employees who were being transferred to other agencies. In the bill, NTEU also won the right for CFPB employees to bargain over compensation.

Each year, at NTEU's Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C., hundreds of members meet face-to-face with their congressional delegations. This NTEU-organized event provides members **direct access to their legislators** and makes certain that employee issues and perspectives are highlighted.



NTEU can be your powerful voice on Capitol Hill. To learn more about NTEU's legislative efforts on behalf of federal employees or NTEU benefits for CFPB employees, [contact Lolly Gaines](#).



Hammering Out Employee Concerns at the Bargaining Table



Last January, the federal workforce marked the 50th anniversary of the executive order issued by President Kennedy providing the right of federal employees to bargain collectively in the federal government. When CFPB employees choose NTEU as their exclusive representative, they will gain access to the collective bargaining process and the right to have their collective voices heard in the workplace.

The process of bringing employee voices to the bargaining table has resulted in numerous benefits for federal workers including telework, flexible schedules, objective promotion and appraisal processes, a clear dispute resolution process, fair leave and travel policies and more. The goal is to protect the rights currently enjoyed by employees and to expand these rights in ever-increasing areas.

In bargaining workplace and compensation matters, NTEU professional staff would lead bargaining teams of CFPB employees representative of a cross-section of the workforce in regional offices and headquarters.

These bargaining teams would be made up of NTEU volunteers who have experience and expertise in the issues that are on the table. Employees bring a wealth of knowledge to the negotiations and put issues in perspective for management representatives. They know how the work gets done on the front lines and understand how changes would impact that work. They fight for employees and sensible policies and procedures that will help the CFPB serve taxpayers and protect consumers.

The agreements reached at the bargaining table clearly spell out employees' rights, benefits and obligations.

Bargaining is a non-stop process at NTEU, and at any given time, there are frontline employees serving on these teams handling issues large and small. Whether it is a local space negotiation or a major departmental reorganization, the bargaining process ensures that the voices of employees are heard and workplace problems can be addressed with common sense solutions.

"Federal employees have a vested interest in the success of their department or agency, and through collective bargaining there is a process for their suggestions, ideas and proposals to be heard."

Colleen M. Kelley
NTEU National President

Contact [NTEU](#) for more information or visit [NTEU's website for CFPB employees](#).