



# INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL ENGINEERS AFL-CIO & CLC

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December 11, 2019

Dear Representative:

As the Executive Officers of the International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers (IFPTE), we are writing regarding today's consideration of the Fiscal Year 2020 (FY20) National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) conference report.

We are pleased with the compromised inclusion of the following provisions in the final conference report:

- Twelve weeks of paid parental leave for federal workers, as is largely consistent with legislation championed by Hawaii Senator Brian Schatz and House Oversight and Government Reform Chairwoman Carolyn Maloney;
- A requirement that GAO prepare a report on the potential mis-use of term or temporary hiring authorities;
- A block on the Administration's plan to shutter OPM through 2020 until a study is conducted by an independent third party;
- A repeal of the arbitrary DOD personnel caps intended to maintain taxpayer funded defense contractor spending;
- Language that erodes the loophole allowing the costly transfer of civilian functions to military without a cost analysis;
- An independent study requested by Congressman Derek Kilmer to determine the scope lost compensation and job grade of Navy shipyard workers due to the Accelerated Promotion Program donut hole;
- A GAO report requiring a review of military manpower replacing civilian positions;
- A 3.1% pay raise for our military personnel, which IFPTE fully supports while continuing to advocate for the same raise to be extended to civilian workers through the Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations process;
- Language prohibiting another round of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC).

IFPTE is disappointed that the House passed NDAA language reversing the probationary periods for civilian workers from two years back to one year was not preserved in the final conference report. That said, IFPTE is pleased with the overall conference report, as it supports both our civilian workers and our fighting women and men. We urge you to support this bill.

Sincerely,

Paul Shearon  
President

Matthew Biggs  
Secretary-Treasurer

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