

January 28, 2021

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chapter Presidents and Legislative Coordinators

RE: Paid Family and Medical Leave Bill Introduced

SUMMARY: Today, Representative Carolyn Maloney and others introduced the Comprehensive Paid Leave for Federal Employees Act, which would grant all federal employees 12 weeks of paid leave related to personal illness, illness of a family member, or military deployment.

Today, Chairwoman Carolyn Maloney was joined by a group of her colleagues in introducing the Comprehensive Paid Leave for Federal Employees Act. This bill, which is similar to a bill introduced the last Congress, would expand on the new paid parental leave benefit by providing federal employees with 12 weeks of paid family and medical leave to care for themselves or a loved one with a serious illness.

I was pleased to participate today at a press conference with members of Congress announcing the introduction of the bill. I was especially pleased that one of our members, Calvin Harris from Chapter 237 at the USDA/Food and Nutrition Services, was able to speak to reporters about his personal experience and what this benefit would mean to federal employees.

While federal employees may currently take up to 12 weeks of *unpaid* leave for reasons related to personal illness, illness of a family member, or military deployment, no one should have to choose between caring for your family and putting food on the table. That is why NTEU will push for passage of this bill that, if enacted, would ensure federal employees no longer need to choose between a paycheck and taking time off when you or a member of your family is ill. This is a critical benefit that would make a significant difference in the lives of many federal workers across the country. I will keep you posted as the bill moves through Congress.

Anthony M. Reardon
National President