



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

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Congress Adopts 2.0% Pay Raise for Federal Employees **IFPTE President Applauds Congress for Rejecting Locality Pay Freeze**

WASHINGTON, DC – Last night Congressional Appropriators approved the first phase of year end spending by bundling together six of the unfinished Fiscal Year 2010 spending bills. Included in the Omnibus package was the Financial Services spending bill, which included funding for a 2.0% pay raise for our nation's civil servant workers. In approving the pay increase, lawmakers rejected an Obama Administration effort to freeze locality pay.

President Obama originally recommended a 2.0% percent pay raise for civilian personnel, along with a recent suggestion to freeze locality pay. IFPTE, which represents tens of thousands of federal employees, has been pushing for the larger, 2.9% pay raise approved as a part of the Fiscal Year 2010 Senate Financial Services appropriations measure. However, despite the best efforts of several members of congress, including Senators Susan Collins and Daniel Akaka, as well as House Federal Workforce Chairman Lynch to push for the higher 2.9% pay raise, appropriators backed the White House's original number.

IFPTE President Gregory Junemann provided the following comments on the Congressional action:

"IFPTE is obviously disappointed that pay parity was not recommended in the President's budget and was not ultimately approved by Congress. We would, however, like to thank those lawmakers that fought for the Senate recommended 2.9% pay raise. Federal workers are certainly more than willing to sacrifice in tough economic times and the Senate number was reflective of that, so it is unfortunate that the 2.9% pay increase didn't carry the day. IFPTE remains appreciative to those lawmakers that fight each and every year for federal pay parity.

"IFPTE wants to pay a particular note of appreciation to Senator Collins, who ensured that the locality pay freeze proposal was ultimately rejected. Regardless of the final pay raise, freezing locality pay is a dangerous precedent to set and should not be considered now, or in the future."

IFPTE represents federal workers at the Department of Defense, NASA, the Department of Energy, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Congressional Research Service, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Government Accountability Office, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the Department of Interior.

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