February 2025

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1. Victory on the Repeal of GPO/WEP—Now what? President Biden signed the repeal of the Social Security Fairness Act into law on January 5. The new law will affect Social Security benefits payable after December 2023. To receive updates from the Social Security Administration (SSA) regarding the new law visit: <u>https://ssa.gov/benefits/retirement/social-</u> <u>security-fairness-act.html</u> Beneficiaries should ensure their information is up to date with SSA, including address and direct deposit details. The Social Security Administration has a tool that can estimate the maximum amount that your Social Security benefits have been or would be reduced because of the WEP and GPO. The tool can be found at <u>www.ssa.gov/prepare/government-and-foreign-pensions</u>. The estimated average is \$360 per month.

2. The Fund for Children and Public Education fights for fair treatment of our retirees. Having passed the Social Security Fairness Act, which was a decades-long fight for fairness in our retirement pension, it is clear how important it is to support our NEA lobbyist who never gave up the fight. This year, 2025 will be an exceptionally important to be prepared for attacks on Federal employees and their entitlements. Please consider donating to the NEA Fund for Children and Public Education. Even a small donation will help! Please don't wait...go to

https://educationvotes.nea.org/donate/ today to make a difference.

3. NEA-Retired Spring Conference starts March 9 in Detroit. The NEA-R Spring Conference will be March 9-11, 2025, at Fort Pontchartrain Hotel Detroit. NEA-R will offer a number of workshops for NEA-R members including programs on racial and social justice, becoming more involved in

your retired association and tool for organizing. Registration is only \$120, and is now open through February 10, 2025. For more information on the conference, the agenda, and how to register visit: <u>www.nea.org/retired</u>

4. Tax Time is Just Around the Corner. As we get busy collecting our paperwork for filing our taxes, don't forget NEA Member Benefits (<u>http://neamb.com</u>) has several publications on tax preparation for retirees. They also offers discounts on tax preparation software. After logging in, click the "Benefits and Discounts" in the top banner, and then click on "NEA Discount Market Place." Then, near the bottom of the page (where it says "Find a Store"), type the word "tax" in the search browser to see the various discounts offered on a number of software programs.