

## **NSPS Repealed with Signing of 2010 National Defense Authorization Act**

**(WASHINGTON)** – The American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE), today, applauded President Obama, House Armed Services Chairman Ike Skelton (D-MO), Senate Armed Services Chairman Carl Levin (D-MI), Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Chairman Joe Lieberman (I-CT), Senate HSGAC Subcommittee Chairman Daniel Akaka (D-HI), House Oversight and Government Reform Chairman Ed Towns (D-NY), and House OGR Subcommittee Chairman Stephen Lynch (D-MA) for championing fairness in the federal government and repealing the fatally flawed National Security Personnel System, (NSPS).

“We have known from the very beginning that NSPS could not survive objective scrutiny,” said John Gage AFGE national president. “We are extremely grateful to President Obama, Chairman Levin, Chairman Lieberman, Subcommittee Chairman Akaka, Chairman Towns, and Subcommittee Chairman Lynch for recognizing NSPS for the misguided ideological boondoggle that it has been.”

“NSPS, which was created in a poisonous atmosphere by ideologues seeking to destroy collective bargaining, federal unions and employee rights and protections, has been proven through Government Accountability Office studies and by DoD’s own review board to be opaque, obscure, and discriminatory,” said Gage. Through various defense authorization bills, some rights – collective bargaining and employee appeal rights – had been previously restored. But, the costly NSPS pay system remained unwieldy and mistrusted by DoD civilian employees at all levels.

The recently enacted law will require the transition of NSPS employees, with no loss in pay, to previously existing civilian personnel systems no later than January 1, 2012. “AFGE looks forward to working with the DoD to improve the performance management and hiring systems so that the needs of the taxpayers, war fighters, and employees can all be addressed,” said Gage.