

November 20, 1997
Congressman James Greenwood
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3808

Dear Congressman Greenwood:

The Government misleads its federal employees to believe that their annuity is comparable to the retirement programs found in the private sectors. Few know that their annuity is not protected in the manner in which private sector retirement funds are protected by the ERISA laws, or that he is subjected to the Government Pension Offset and the Windfall Pension Offset. The GPO requires that federal annuitants that, after 1 July 1983, became entitled to Social Security spouse or surviving spouse's benefits have, all or part of, these moneys offset by their service annuities. The WEP reduces a person's own Social Security benefits if the federal retiree became eligible for annuity after December 31, 1985.

Finally, there are before Congress **HR2273** and **HR 2549**. **HR2273** - proposed by Congressman William Jefferson of LA - would eliminate the GPO for retirees with a combined federal and spousal Social Security benefit under \$1200 a month. **HR 2549** would eliminate the WEP for annuitants whose combined, unreduced, monthly combined benefit is \$2000 or less.

I strongly urge you to support these Resolutions. A reply is requested.

Sincerely,

(YOUR NAME)

Written by John De Matteo