



National Postal Mail Handlers Union

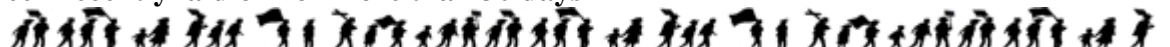
THE BREAKDOWN

Legislation Introduced to Provide Paid Family Leave for Federal Workers

Bills expanding the Family and Medical Leave rights of federal employees were recently introduced into the House and Senate since the inauguration of President Obama. In the House, Representative Carol Maloney (D-NY), with 46 cosponsors, introduced the Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act of 2009 (H.R. 626). The legislation would provide eligible federal employees with up to 4 weeks of paid parental leave to care for a newborn or newly adopted/foster care placed son or daughter. The 4 weeks is paid by the agency. It is not deducted from the employee's annual leave balance. The legislation would apply to civil service employees, employees of Congress, and employees of the GAO and Library of Congress. The legislation was recently approved by the House Oversight and Government Reform's Subcommittee on the Federal Workforce, Postal Service, and District of Congress. Senator Jim Webb (D-VA), with 14 cosponsors, introduced nearly identical legislation in the Senate (S. 354). On a related note, Representative Maloney, with 11 cosponsors, also introduced the Family and Medical Leave Enhancement Act of 2009 (H.R. 824). The bill would amend Titles I and II of the FMLA to allow federal civil service and non-civil service employees to take up to 4 hours a month, up to a total of 24 hours a year of leave for two purposes: (1) to participate in or attend a school or community sponsored activity of a son, daughter, or grand child; or (2) to meet routine family medical care needs, including routine medical and dental appointments of a son, daughter, spouse, grandchild, or elderly relative.

Union Plus has an innovative new program of unique benefits for members facing economic hardship. It's called Union SAFE and it expands the Union Plus safety net for working families and members participating in Union Plus programs and includes:

- Credit counseling services, budgeting advice and no-fee debt management and bankruptcy counseling benefits (Call 1-877-833-1745)
- Save My Home Hotline to help members avoid foreclosure (Call 1-866-490-5361)
- Hospital Care Grants of \$1,000 for qualified participants in the Union Plus Credit Card, Mortgage or Union Secure Insurance programs who have been recently hit with large, unreimbursed hospital expenses
- College Saving Grants of \$500 for qualified participants in the Union Plus Credit Card, Mortgage or Union Secure Insurance programs who open a new 529 tax-free college savings or pre-paid tuition account between Jan. 1 and June 30, 2009.
- Job Loss Grants of \$250 for qualified Union Plus Credit Card holders who have been recently laid off for more than 90 days
- Disability Grants of \$1,000 to \$2,000 for qualified Union Plus Credit Card holders who have significant income loss due to a recent long-term illness or disability
- Mortgage Assistance to help Union Plus Mortgage holders who are laid off, disabled or are on strike make their mortgage payments
- Insurance Premium Waivers for members with Union Secure Life Insurance who have been recently laid off for more than 30 days



Union

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Marlon Lassiter

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