



# FLRA NEWS

FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY - WASHINGTON, DC 20424

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 25, 2020

## **AUTHORITY SOLICITS COMMENTS ON A REQUEST FOR A GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY OR GUIDANCE**

The Federal Labor Relations Authority (Authority) solicits written comments on a request from the National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation (the Foundation) for a general statement of policy or guidance (general statement) concerning official time for certain lobbying activities. The Foundation has requested, under Section 2427.2(a) of the Authority's rules and regulations (5 C.F.R. § 2427.2(a)), that the Authority issue a general statement of policy or guidance concerning whether Section 7131 of the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute (the Statute) permits parties to bargain over, or union representatives to use, official time for lobbying activities that are subject to Federal law.

In its request, the Foundation asks the Authority to issue a general statement holding that Congress did not expressly authorize the use of appropriated funds for union lobbying activities through the Statute, and, therefore, the Statute does not permit parties to bargain over, or union representatives to use, official time for lobbying activities that are subject to 18 U.S.C. 1913.

Interested persons are asked to address the following questions, which are set forth in a "Notice of Opportunity to Comment on a Request for a General Statement of Policy or Guidance on Official Time for Certain Lobbying Activities," appearing in today's Federal Register:

Is the issuance of a general statement of policy or guidance in this case warranted, under the standards set forth in § 2427.5 of the Authority's Regulations (5 C.F.R. § 2427.5)?

If a general statement is warranted, what should the Authority's policy or guidance be?

The Federal Register notice can be found [here](#). The Authority will consider written comments that are received on or before April 24, 2020, by email or postal mail. Further filing instructions may be found in the Federal Register notice. For additional information, contact Emily Sloop, Chief, Case Intake and Publication, at (202) 218-7740.

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*The Federal Labor Relations Authority administers the labor-management relations program for 2.1 million non-Postal federal employees worldwide, approximately 1.2 million of whom are represented in 2,200 bargaining units. The Authority is charged with resolving disputes under, and ensuring compliance with, the Federal Service Labor-Management Relations Statute.*