

## **Sick Leave for FERS Participants**

(This article last updated April 28, 2008)

**Issue Description:** On March 10, 2008, Representative Jim Moran (D-VA) and original co-sponsors Frank Wolf (R-VA) and Tom Davis (R-VA), introduced H.R. 5573, a bill to provide a lump-sum payment for certain federal employees covered under the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) who retire with a substantial amount of unused sick leave. Judiciary employees participating in FERS would be covered under the bill as introduced.

Under the proposal, FERS employees would receive 15 percent of the value of their unused sick leave balances accrued over their government careers that exceeds 500 hours. The 500 hour level is ostensibly established in order to ensure that employees have at least that much sick leave available for an illness, injury or disability. Upon retirement, FERS employees would be eligible for a lump-sum payment of up to \$10,000 for the value of their unused sick leave.

**Legislative History:** On March 10, 2007, H.R. 5573 was referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

**Judicial Conference Position:** Currently, the Judicial Conference has no position on this bill.