

NWSEO responds to Cuts in ITO Position in the President's FY 17 Budget. We're working to save your jobs. Can we count on your support?

Dear NWS Information Technology Officer,

Once again, the ITO position is on the chopping block. The President's FY17 Budget proposes to cut funding for this critical NWS position. It is the hard-driving work of this professional organization that saved the ITO position every year since 2012. It takes intense lobbying and <u>outreach efforts to inform Congress about the important work you do.</u> NWSEO lobbying, the time and financial resources invested in saving your job, comes at a great cost to our professional organization. The united work of your NWSEO co-workers and ITO members are key factors in this success. We need your membership support in order to continue our efforts.

This year, the Administration seems more determined than in the past to eliminate the position. In February, they sent a budget justification to Congress along with plans for eliminating the ITO positions. In March, NOAA sent a report to Congress entitled, <u>"Evolving Information Technology Service Delivery at National Weather Service Field Offices,"</u> which for the first time detailed how the NWS would transition to Readi Teams.

NWSEO, with the help of NWS ITOs, was able to send quick and comprehensive rebuttals for both reports. NWSEO Legislative Lobbyist Richard Hirn distributed more than 100 pages of ITO documentation to Congress in late March. The ITO documentation will also serve as speaking points for Mr. Hirn in upcoming meetings on this issue.

We are very concerned that you are not a member of NWSEO. We need your membership support to help us fight for your position and are asking you to join our professional organization. You can join by payroll deduction, credit card or check. In order to join using payroll deduction, please complete the attached Standard Form 1187 and email it to Christy Fox, Director of Membership Services at:

Membership@nwseo.org or send it via fax to Christy at 202-600-2145. Please visit

http://nwseo.org/joinnwseo.php to learn more about NWSEO membership.

NWSEO is the only organization with the ability to lobby Congress and the Administration to preserve NWS jobs, promote better working conditions and career promotions for NWS, and participate in collective bargaining.

Sincerely,

No one cares more for National Weather Service employees than National Weather Service employees.

No one works harder for National Weather Service employees than National Weather Service employees.

We are NWSEO.