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From: Matthew Borgia - NOAA Federal <matthew.borgia@noaa.gov>
To: John Sokich <john.sokich@noaa.gov>
Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Re: Fwd: WCM language
Date: Tue Sep 27 2016 12:20:01 EDT
Attachments:

See my texts. I think we need to alert leadership, and take credit for this. I think this would be an AWESOME achievement, if it gets enacted!

On Tue, Sep 27, 2016 at 12:13 PM, John Sokich <john.sokich@noaa.gov> wrote:

I'm not a lawyer, but I agree with Matt. The language about IDSS is exactly with NWS needs.

On 9/27/2016 12:08 PM, Matthew Borgia - NOAA Federal wrote:

So, here's what Senate staff came back with. A bit circular in logic perhaps, but I think it's VERY positive and very much in line with what we'd like to do, esp w/r/t OWA.

SEC. 405. WARNING COORDINATION METEOROLOGISTS AT WEATHER FORECAST OFFICES OF NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE.

(a) In General.—The Director of the National Weather Service shall designate at least 1 warning coordination meteorologist at each weather forecast office of the National Weather Service. The primary role of the warning coordination meteorologists shall be to carry out the responsibilities required by this section. NOAA is not authorized to hire additional full-time equivalent employees for purposes of carrying out this section. Performance of the responsibilities outlined in this section is not limited to the warning coordination meteorologist position.

(b) Responsibilities.— Consistent with the Operations and Workforce Analysis defined in Section 409, to increase impact-based decision support services each weather forecast office of the National Weather Service, through the warning coordination meteorologist designated under subsection (a), or through such other staff deemed necessary to meet the following responsibilities, shall— ...[rest of section unchanged]

On Mon, Sep 26, 2016 at 10:44 AM, Hugh Schratwieser - NOAA Federal <hugh.c.schratwieser@noaa.gov> wrote:

Matt,

Here is my suggested version.

Hugh

On 9/26/2016 9:59 AM, Matthew Borgia - NOAA Federal wrote:

Hi Hugh,
Can you read this over quickly? We're looking to get back to the Senate this morning on this. Attached is the latest iteration that HQ folks came up with. We're attempting to have the language read as intended by Senate staff: no additional/new authorized FTEs.
My read is that this proposed edit misses the mark, and is (unintentionally) overly restrictive, since it says 'can't hire additional employees.' There is a HQ concerns that if we use the term "positions" we're restricting ourselves to allow other, non-WCM personnel/positions to do similar duties. And in the future NWS state (following OWA), the assumption is that non-WCMs will do these duties, too.

And perhaps ambiguity would be helpful in this case? Please let us know what you think. We need ASAP.

Thanks!
Matt

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Shali Mohleji - NOAA Federal <shalini.mohleji@noaa.gov>
Date: Fri, Sep 23, 2016 at 4:41 PM
Subject: Fwd: WCM language
To: John Sokich - NOAA Federal <John.Sokich@noaa.gov>, Michael Bilder - NOAA Federal <michael.bilder@noaa.gov>, Darone Jones - NOAA Federal <darone.jones@noaa.gov>
Cc: Coby Dolan - NOAA Federal <coby.dolan@noaa.gov>, Robert Moller - NOAA Federal <robert.moller@noaa.gov>, Matthew Borgia - NOAA Federal <matthew.borgia@noaa.gov>

NWS Team,

Could we please get the attached reviewed and cleared by NWS asap? Deepest apologies for the late request but we need to get this back to the Senate asap.

The background for the attached text: we tried to edit some language that needs to endorse the role of the WCM but not limit to only the WCM's providing IDSS. Since OWA will open up that responsibility to many staff, not just WCM's. Our team has gone back and forth and finally come up with the attached.

However, we won't officially submit until we have NWS review. Senate is waiting.

Please, very close hold on this other than sharing with your limited NWS folks for review.

Many Thanks,
Shali

Shalini Mohleji, Ph.D.

Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
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I see you're on this thread. Is national guidance expected? This message should hit ALL regions.

---------- Forwarded message ----------
From: Stephen Brueske - NOAA Federal <stephen.brueske@noaa.gov>
Date: Wednesday, October 19, 2016
Subject: Request for Time to Listen to/View NWSEO Material
To: _NWS CR MIC/HIC <cr.mic@noaa.gov>, _NWS CR DIVISION_CHIEFS <cr.divchief@noaa.gov>
Cc: Ken Brown <kenneth.i.brown@noaa.gov>, David Murray - NOAA Federal <david.murray@noaa.gov>

MIC/HICs,
Please share the following with your managers.

Be advised that bargaining unit people from multiple CR offices have asked their managers for time to view "An OWA Briefing" or a presentation related to the future of NWS from Dan Sobien. It has been described in various ways. NWSEO has evidently sent invitations to bargaining unit members to view the presentation...and there may be multiple instances when the presentation is provided.

This is internal union business that is strictly prohibited while on duty time or in government facilities. You must not allow this to happen in the office or during duty time. The following statement from the CBA, Article 7, Section 7 clearly applies:
"...activities related to the internal affairs of the Union will not be conducted within the working hours or work areas of employees. Management facilities and /or equipment and ADP equipment shall not be used for any such purpose."
(Comes from "Title 5, United States Code, Section 7131 (b). Official time.")

If any of your bargaining unit employees ask for official time to view material related to "internal union business", you should deny their request. If you want to allow them leave to listen/view material from NWSEO representatives, then you can do so, but the employees must be on leave and they cannot use government equipment or government facilities to do so.

Take care,
Steve

Stephen Brueske
Deputy Regional Director
National Weather Service, Central Region
(816) 268-3131

Cell: (b) (6) [redacted]

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Sally Pavlow Johnson
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