

# Newsflash 15-2

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## Alert: Potential Scam

The Benefits and Entitlements Branch would like to alert all Federal employees of a potential scam by a benefits and retirement planning company, Government Employee Services. The scam intends to use misinformation as well as fear about the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and its impact on the Federal Employees Health Benefit Program (FEHB) to influence Federal employees to buy their services.

1. **Government Employee Services is in no way affiliated with the Federal Government.** It is a company seeking to get your business through misleading advertisement.
2. **FEHB Retirement coverage is not altered or impacted by the Affordable Care Act.** An employee still has to retire on an immediate annuity and have FEHB coverage 5 years prior to retirement.
3. **Beware of calls, mailings, or emails seeking to “help” you with your Federal benefits.** Contact your local Human Resource Office (HRO) to verify whether claims about changes to your Federal benefits are true. Contact your local HRO if you are unsure whether or not the correspondence came from your Agency.

In 2011, the Office of Personnel Management released a Benefits Administration Letter (BAL) addressing a similar scam targeting Federal employees as well as steps Benefits Officers and employees can take to spot retirement fraud. [BAL 11-107](#) attachment to Benefits Officers may be found [here](#). The attachment addressed to employees may be found [here](#).



*Questions?*

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