



601 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 900, South Building
Washington, D.C. 20004-2601
Tel: 202-220-3172 Toll-Free: 1-866-360-7197
Email: contact@nrln.org Website: www.nrln.org Facebook:
www.facebook.com/nrln1 Twitter: www.twitter.com/nrln3

Board of Directors

Bill Kadereit, President / **Janet Seefried**, VP – Secretary /
Treasurer / **Jay Kuhnle**, VP Legislative Affairs / **Judy Stenberg**,
VP – Legislative Research/ **Ed Beltram**, VP – Communications /
Vern Larson – VP Chapters Representative / **Dana Oliver**, VP -
Regulatory / **Joe Sciulli**, VP – Social Media / **Hector Saenz**, VP –
Membership Development / **Jane Banfield** / **Cynthia Hadsell** /
Mary Foley /

Washington Staff

Alyson Parker, Executive Director
Michael Calabrese, Legislative Adviser

The NRLN advocates the rights of more than 2 million American retirees from...

Aetna / Agere / Agilent / Albertson / American Airlines / AT&T-
Ameritech-SBC / AMF / American Mutual / Amica Mutual /
Archdiocese of Boston / ARXE, Inc. / AT&T / Avaya / Avin
Meritor / Avon / Ball Aerospace / Baltimore Public Schools / Bell
Atlantic / Bell Helicopter / BellSouth / Bendix / BOC Group /
Boeing / California State Employees / Caterpillar / C & P
Telephone / CenturyLink / Chrysler / City of San Diego / College
of New Rochelle / CO DOT / CO PERA / Commonwealth Edison /
Commscope / Connectivity Solutions / Consolidated Edison /
Continental Airlines / Continental General Tire / Cooper Tires/
CORBE, Inc. / Corteva / Cox Media / CSX Transportation / CWA /
Datatronics / Del Monte / Delphi / Delta Air Lines / Dept. of
Justice / Detroit Edison / Detroit Diesel / DHS-FEMA / Diamond
State / Digital Equipment / DTE Energy / DuPont / Eastman
Chemical Co. / Embarq / Enco Alloys / Entergy Operations, Inc. /
Exelon / FedEx / Fidelity / Fisher Scientific Co. / Ford / General
Electric / General Motors/ General Telephone / Gulf Oil /
Hartford / Hoechst Celanese / Holophane / Honeywell Vorr /
Hughes Aircraft / HWB / IBEW / IBM / Illinois Bell / Illinois
Teachers Assn. / Indiana Bell / J. I. Case Corp. / John Deere / JNJ
/ Johns Manville / Johnson & Johnson / Kaman Corp. / Kansas
City Schools / Kodak / Lockheed Martin / Lucent / Marlboro /
McDonnell Douglas / MCI / MetLife / Mich Con / MI Public
Schools / Mobil Oil / Monsanto/Solutia / MST&T Co. / NARFE /
NASD / NEA / Net Co. / Nevada Bell / Niagara Mohawk Power /
NJEA / NJ Public Employee / Nokia / North Memorial Medical
Center / NSTAR / Northwest Airlines / Northwestern Bell /
NYNEX / NY Teachers / Ohio Bell / OK Teachers / Oregon PERS /
OSRAM Sylvania / PacBell / PBGC / PECO Energy / Pension
Actuary / Pfizer / Phila Electric Co. / Polaroid / Port Authority of
NY & NJ / Portland GE-Enron / Prudential / PSERS of PA / Public
Service of Colorado / Raytheon / RECSEA / Rock-Tenn Co. /
Rocky Mount Mills / Rohm & Haas Co. / Rouse Co./ Salis / Sears
/ SEIU/CSEA / Semptra Energy / Southern New England Tel
Southwestern Bell / Spherion Corp. / Springs Mills / Sprint /
State of MI / Supermedia LLC / Teamsters / Telesector
Resources Group / Telcordia / Tennessee Valley Authority /
Texas Instruments / TIAA-CREF / Transamerica / UCLA / Ullico /
Union Pacific / UnitedHealthCare / United Airlines / United
Telephone / University of California / UPS / U.S. Air Force / U.S.
Airways / U.S. Bureau of Reclamation / U.S. Marine Corp. / U.S.
Air Force / U.S. Army / U.S. Navy / USAF Trucking / US West-
Qwest / USPS / Verizon / Visteon / WA PERS / Wells Fargo /
Western Union / Weyerhaeuser / Xerox/

May 12, 2025

The Honorable Ron Wyden, Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-3703

Dear Senator Wyden:

On behalf of the more than 2 million members of the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN), I am requesting that you support calling for votes in the Committee on Finance on the following three bills:

S.475, Alternatives to PAIN Act, would provide greater access to non-opioid treatments for pain management for seniors by:

- Limiting patient cost-sharing for patients receiving non-opioid based pain relief under Medicare Part D plans;
- Prohibiting the utilization of step therapy and prior authorization for these drugs; and
- Encouraging the continued dialogue between patients and their healthcare professionals about preferences in pain management choices.

The United States is facing a public health crisis caused by prescription drug addiction. Unfortunately, our country's seniors are not immune to the worsening opioid epidemic. In 2021, 1.1 million seniors were diagnosed with an opioid use disorder, and 50,400 seniors experienced an opioid overdose from prescription opioids, illicit opioids, or both.

S.1058, Preserving Patient Access to Home Infusion Act, would ensure patients with serious infections, heart failure, immune diseases, cancer and other conditions receive the intravenous (IV) medications they need while at home. Expanding at-home infusion services for Medicare beneficiaries will save Medicare millions of dollars, cut patient costs, and ensure people receive safe and adequate care at home.

Despite congressional intent, CMS improperly implemented the benefit for Medicare Part B home infusion drugs by requiring a nurse to be physically present in the patient's home in order for providers to be reimbursed. The current home infusion therapy benefit fails to account for the extensive clinical and administrative services that are provided remotely by home infusion clinicians. As a result, provider participation in Medicare's home infusion benefit has dropped sharply and beneficiaries have experienced reduced access to home infusion over several years

H.R.1217, Alleviating Barriers for Caregivers (ABC) Act, would require the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), Social Security Administration (SSA), and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to review their eligibility, processes, procedures, forms, and communications to reduce the administrative burden on family caregivers. The legislation would then require CMS, SSA, and CHIP to report to Congress after two years about any issues they are facing and any next steps they are taking to support family caregivers.

Family caregivers serve as a primary source of support for seniors and people with disabilities of all ages. In the United States alone, there are more than 48 million family caregivers. More than half of family caregivers act as an advocate for their loved one with care providers, community services, or government agencies. However, one in four family caregivers say they want help with forms, paperwork, and eligibility for services.

If you would like to learn more about why NRLN supports these bills, please contact me or Alyson Parker, NRLN Executive Director in Washington, DC, at parkerstrategies@gmail.com or call 813-545-6792.

Sincerely,



Bill Kadereit, President

National Retiree Legislative Network

Email: bkad@sbcglobal.net

Phone: 972-722-5928