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

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October 13, 2025

The Honorable Jason Smith Committee on Ways and Means U.S. House of Representatives 1011 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Smith:

On behalf of the more than 2 million members of the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN), I am requesting that you call for votes in the Committee on Ways and Means on the following bills:

H.R.610, Close the Medigap Act of 2025, would prohibit discriminatory pricing and coverage denials for patients seeking supplemental Medigap coverage. This bill (1) expands Guaranteed Issue Rights with respect to Medigap policies (Medicare supplemental health insurance policies), (2) eliminates certain limitations on Medigap policies for newly eligible Medicare beneficiaries, and (3) modifies other provisions related to Medigap policies. (Guaranteed Issue Rights require that a policy be offered to any eligible applicant without regard to health status.)

H.R.5081, Telehealth Modernization Act, would extend telehealth access for Americans enrolled in Medicare through fiscal year 2027. Telehealth services are an essential part of America's healthcare system. It is a fact that having to physically travel to a doctor's office or hospital can present a serious barrier to care for seniors, people with disabilities, and people who live in rural areas that are far from a health care provider. Telehealth worked during COVID and should be available and more widely adopted. The Telehealth Modernization Act takes us one step closer to protecting and expanding access to telehealth for Americans.

H.R.5269, RESULTS (Reforming and Enhancing Sustainable Updates to Laboratory Testing Services) Act of 2025, would reform Medicare's Clinical Laboratory Fee Schedule to protect timely access to routine and lifesaving lab tests for seniors. Currently, reimbursement rates for clinical laboratory tests are based on data from less than one percent of labs. While the potential cuts have been continuously delayed by Congress, without permanent action, there will be increasing cuts to payments for tests, jeopardizing care.

The RESULTS Act will strengthen how Medicare sets and updates payment rates for these tests. It builds on prior efforts from Congress by allowing the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to use comprehensive private claims data to establish fair, market-based rates for widely available tests. The bill reduces administrative burden on labs, adds guardrails to avoid destabilizing cuts, and updates reporting timelines so patients, providers, and payers can plan with confidence.

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 <a href="mailto:parkerstrategies@gmail.com">parkerstrategies@gmail.com</a> or call 813-545-6792.

Sincerely,

Bill Kadereit, President

Bill Kadereit

National Retiree Legislative Network

Email: <u>bkad@sbcglobal.net</u> Phone: 972-722-5928

Copy to Sponsors of the Bills Representative Lloyd Doggett (TX-37) H.R. 610 Representative Earl "Buddy" Carter (GA-01) H.R.5081 Representative Richard Hucson (NC-09) H.R.5269