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

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April 13, 2026

The Honorable Jason Smith, Chairman  
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.1517, Prevent Interruptions in Physical Therapy Act of 2025.** For many senior Medicare patients, physical therapy services can help restore mobility and patient's ability to function and live independently with a higher quality of life. But too often, services can be interrupted if a practitioner is not available. leaving seniors without care. The **Prevent Interruptions in Physical Therapy Act** builds on previous legislation passed into law in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act that enables physical therapists in rural, medically underserved, and health professional shortage areas to ensure their patients continue to receive quality care during a temporary absence. This bill would extend the same flexibility to all physical therapists and patients nationwide.

**H.R.2538, Comprehensive Alternative Response for Emergencies (CARE) Act of 2025.** In recent years, around 22% of 911 calls to EMS involved medical conditions that would not require transport to a hospital, including after a fall or for minor medical emergencies. However, Medicare does not currently reimburse EMS for services provided unless the patient is transported to the hospital via ambulance. As a result, EMS providers are obligated to respond and deliver vital services on-scene without reimbursement. The **CARE Act** would amend title XVII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare reimbursement for care provided by EMS when no transportation to the hospital is provided. The bill will benefit Medicare seniors who rely on EMS by aligning the reimbursement model with the services performed.

**H.R.5278, Affordable Inhalers and Nebulizers Act of 2025.** Research shows that the high cost of medicines is a top barrier for treatment of Americans with asthma and Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD). **H.R. 5278** would allow Americans and their families to be able to afford vital

medications by reducing the price of asthma medications and therapies used to treat asthma and other lung disorders.

**H.R.6280, Access to Genetic Counselor Services Act of 2025.** Genetic counselors have extensive training in identifying which tests are most appropriate for a particular patient, and how to interpret test results to best identify the patient’s plan for care. With a wide variety of tests available on the market, leveraging the knowledge and experience of a genetic counselor can save both patients and the taxpayer money by avoiding unnecessary testing and allowing physicians to focus their time on what they do best – treating patients.

**H.R.6289** would allow Medicare to reimburse licensed genetic counselors for services that would otherwise be reimbursable if provided by a physician.

**H.R.6509, SAFE Drugs Act of 2025.** “FDA approved” is the global gold standard for drug safety. Yet many Americans are being exposed to mass compounded drugs, which bypass FDA’s approval process and, as the FDA warns, “pose a higher risk” to patients. While compounding serves important individualized medical needs, some entities are exploiting it to illegally manufacture and sell untested, unapproved drugs. These products endanger patients, undermine trust in FDA-approved medicines. **H.R.6509** would protect patients from untested, unapproved, and potentially dangerous mass compounded drugs by requiring regular inspections of compounding facilities, enhancing transparency through stronger reporting requirements, and ensuring the FDA has the resources it needs to safeguard consumers.

**H.R.6735, Connecting Caregivers to Medicare Act of 2025.** There are 63 million family caregivers in the United States who assist their older parents, spouses, siblings, grandparents, adult children, and other loved ones so they can live independently in their homes. Caregivers provide an estimated \$600 billion in unpaid labor each year, saving taxpayers billions of dollars. **H.R.6735** would help inform people about Medicare’s voluntary option for Medicare beneficiaries to allow family caregivers to access their health information through 1-800-MEDICARE.

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](mailto:parkerstrategies@gmail.com) or call 813-545-6792.

Sincerely,



Bill Kadereit, President

National Retiree Legislative Network

Email: [bkad@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bkad@sbcglobal.net)

Phone: 972-722-5928

Copy to Sponsors of the Bills:

Representative Gus Bilirakis (FL-12) H.R.1517

Representative Mike Carey (OH-15) H.R.2538 and H.R.6735

Representative Kweisi Mfume (MD-07) H.R.5278

Representative Adrian Smith (NE-03) H.R.6280

Representative Rudy Yakym (IN-02) H.R.6509