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

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December 8, 2014

The Honorable John Thune  
United States Senate  
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-4105

**Subject: Reintroduce Diabetic Testing Supply Access Act in 114th Congress**

Dear Senator Thune:

On July 24, 2014, I sent to you a copy of a letter that I wrote to Senator Ron Wyden requesting that he apply his leadership as Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee to pass your bill **S. 1935, The Diabetic Testing Supply Access Act**. Unfortunately for millions of diabetic Americans on Medicare your bill will most likely die in committee with the adjournment later this month of the 113th Congress. I am writing to ask that you reintroduce the **Diabetic Testing Supply Access Act** early in the 114th Congress.

The National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN), that represents the interests of more than 2 million retirees across the nation, commends your interest in gaining legislation that would deny the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) authority to restrict or eliminate a Medicare beneficiary's option of electing, regardless of delivery method (except by mail), to have diabetic testing supplies delivered to him or her by retail community pharmacies. This includes pharmacies that contract with a long-term care facility, assisted living facility, group home, or other type of residential setting recognized by the state.

I am also sending a letter to Representative Peter Welch requesting that he reintroduce the **Diabetic Testing Supply Access Act** companion bill in the House of Representatives.

As you understand, easy access to diabetic testing supplies is essential to the health of seniors on Medicare. I hope to hear from you that you will be reintroducing your bill. You can count on the NRLN to do whatever it can to support its passage.

If a member of your Capitol Hill staff would like to discuss the NRLN's interest in having the **Diabetic Testing Supply Access Act** passed, contact Marta Bascom, NRLN Executive Director, at [executivedirector@nrln.org](mailto:executivedirector@nrln.org) or 703-863-9611) Also, your South Dakota staff could contact Robert Kroell in Aberdeen ([bkroell1287@msn.com](mailto:bkroell1287@msn.com) or 605-388-5059) who is the NRLN's State Grassroots Leader in South Dakota. Cindy Hadsell ([clhadsell@aol.com](mailto:clhadsell@aol.com) or 402-553-6316) in Omaha is the NRLN's Regional Grassroots Director. Cal and Cindy are both members of the Northwestern Bell retirees organization affiliated with the NRLN.

Sincerely,



Bill Kadereit, President

National Retiree Legislative Network

Phone: 972-722-5928

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