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

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November 1, 2021

The Honorable Donald M. Payne  
U.S. House of Representatives  
106 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-3010

Dear Representative Payne:

On behalf of the more than 2 million retirees and future retirees represented by the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN), I want to thank you for introducing **H.R.1655, Donald Payne Sr. Colorectal Cancer Detection Act of 2021**. We have noted there are currently 64 cosponsors of **H.R.1655** and hope that is a positive indication that your bill will be passed out of committee and be passed by the House.

It is unfortunate that only 1 in 3 Americans are up to date on their colorectal cancer screening. Enacting your bill would make it easier for people to access all screening options for colon cancer, including non-invasive blood-based screening tests.

An important aspect of **H.R.1655** is that it would place all Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved blood-based screening tests on equal footing with other screening methods and authorize reimbursement from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Currently, the lack of authorization for reimbursement from Medicare is preventing many seniors from accessing all screening options for colorectal cancer.

I am also sending a letter Senator Martin Heinrich to thank him for introducing **S.2149**, the companion bill to **H.R.1655** in the Senate.

If you have any questions about the NRLN's support for **H.R.1655** please contact me of Alyson Parker, NRLN Executive Director, on her cell phone at 813-545-6792 or [executivedirector@nrln.org](mailto:executivedirector@nrln.org).

Sincerely,

**Bill Kadereit**, President  
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