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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 Lloyd Doggett
U.S. House of Representatives
2307 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-4335

Dear Representative Doggett:

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.4311, Medicare Dental, Vision, and Hearing Benefit Act of 2021**. We have noted there are currently 106 cosponsors for **H.R.4311** and hope this is a positive indication that your bill will be passed out of committee and be approved by the House.

News articles have reported that dental, vision and hearing benefits for original Medicare enrollees are no longer part of the social infrastructure bill. If that proves to be the case, the NRLN will strongly support the passage of **H.R.4311**.

The NRLN agrees with you that your bill would fulfill the original purpose of Medicare to help seniors who have difficulty eating, hearing or seeing. It would be a very beneficial Medicare service to have no cost-sharing for these preventative care benefits with no more than the standard 20% copay.

Why can't Congress take back the \$50 billion a year (over \$400 billion in 20 years) in phony bonuses and rebates paid to private insurance companies for Medicare Advantage plans that provide dental, vision and hearing benefits and other stuff for 20 million Medicare Advantage enrollees while 40 million on original Medicare are denied the same coverage.

If you have any questions about the NRLN's support for **H.R.4311** please contact me or Alyson Parker, NRLN Executive Director, on her cell phone at 813-545-6792 or at executivedirector@nrln.org.

Sincerely,

Bill Kadereit, President
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