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

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September 12, 2022

The Honorable Brett Guthrie, Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Health  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2434 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-1702

Dear Representative Guthrie:

On behalf of the more than 2 million retirees and future retirees represented by the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN), I am requesting that you support calling for a vote in the Subcommittee on Health on the following bills.

**H.R.432, Mental Health Access Improvement Act of 2021**, would allow America's seniors access to marriage and family therapists (MFTs) and licensed mental health counselors (LMHCs) through Medicare. This will increase access to existing mental health professionals and allow them to treat more seniors.

**H.R.4114, Allergy Testing Access Act of 2021**. More than 50 million Americans suffer from allergies each year, and the symptoms range from mild to life-threatening. Without proper diagnosis, patients are likely to receive suboptimal care which can lead to serious asthma attacks or even anaphylactic shock. This legislation will remove barriers inhibiting patient coverage and access to safe and accurate allergy tests, by requiring equal coverage of two types of allergy tests under Medicare and Medicaid.

**H.R.4870, Promoting Access to Diabetic Shoes Act**. Diabetic patients often benefit from the use of therapeutic shoes, which are intended to prevent complications like foot ulcers, calluses, or amputations that can result from diabetes. Under current law, such requirements may be satisfied only by a physician. This forces patients to endure a time-consuming process to obtain the therapeutic shoes. This bill would allow a nurse practitioner or physician assistant to fulfill documentation requirements for coverage, under Medicare, of special shoes for diabetic individuals.

If you would like to learn more about why the NRLN supports **H.R.432**, **H.R.4114** and **H.R.4870**, please contact me or 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

National Retiree Legislative Network

Email: [president@nrln.org](mailto:president@nrln.org) Phone: 972-722-5928