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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 Peter Welch
U.S. House of Representatives
2303 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-4501

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

Dear Representative Welch:

On July 24, 2014, I sent to you a copy of a letter that I wrote to Kevin Brady requesting that he apply his leadership as Chairman of the House Ways & Means Subcommittee on Health to pass your bill **H.R. 2845, 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, 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 Senator John Thune requesting that he reintroduce **The Diabetic Testing Supply Access Act** companion bill in the Senate.

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 or 703-863-9611) Also, your Vermont staff could contact Charles Martel in Moretown (cmartel@accessvt.com or 803-496-5932) who is the NRLN's State Grassroots Leader in Vermont. Paul Bayliss (jpbayliss@comcast.net or 603-842-4457) in Dover, NH, is the NRLN's Regional Grassroots Director. Both Charles and Paul are members of the Lucent Retirees Organization affiliated with the NRLN.

Sincerely,



Bill Kadereit, President
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