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

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May 21, 2015

The Honorable Fred Upton, Chairman  
Energy and Commerce Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2183 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-2206

Dear Chairman Upton:

On behalf of the more than 2 million retirees represented by the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN), I urge you to bring to a vote in your committee **H.R. 1559, the Health Outcomes, Planning, and Education (HOPE) For Alzheimer's Act of 2015.**

The NRLN believes that Medicare should provide coverage for a care planning session for patients newly-diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, family caregivers or legal representatives.

Upon receiving an Alzheimer's diagnosis, patients and their families are frequently at a loss for how to effectively plan for the next stage of their lives. While Medicare currently covers a diagnostic evaluation for beneficiaries, the program then offers little support in terms of next steps. The NRLN believes it is vital that patients and caregivers have an individualized plan to cope, information on available resources and become prepared for the future.

If you or your staff have questions about why passage of H.R. 1559 is important to NRLN members, please contact me or Marta Bascom, the NRLN's Executive Director in Washington, DC at 703-863-9611 or [executivedirector@nrln.org](mailto:executivedirector@nrln.org).

The NRLN's full Legislative Agenda and detailed whitepapers can be found at [www.nrln.org](http://www.nrln.org). Your consideration on these issues would also be appreciated.

Sincerely,

President, National Retiree Legislative Network  
Phone: 972-722-5928  
Email: [president@nrln.org](mailto:president@nrln.org)