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

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March 20, 2015

The Honorable Adrian M Smith
U.S. House of Representatives
2241 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-2703

Dear Representative Smith:

On behalf of the more than 2 million retirees represented by the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN), I want to thank you for reintroducing H.R.169 the Critical Access Hospital Relief Act which would remove the 96-hour precertification requirement for patients at Critical Access Hospitals.

It is unrealistic to put an arbitrary limit of 96 hours that patients can stay in a Critical Access Hospitals and expect physicians to be able to predict the unknown when admitting a patient. It makes sense that H.R. 169 should be enacted to remove the “condition of payment” for Critical Access Hospitals that requires a physician to certify upon admission that each patient will be discharged or transferred in less than 96 hours.

I am pleased to see that H.R. 169 already has 38 bipartisan cosponsors from across the nation and the companion bill, S. 258, has 23 bipartisan cosponsors in the Senate.

If the NRLN can help gain the passage of H.R. 169, please contact me or Marta Bascom, the NRLN’s Executive Director in Washington, DC at 703-863-9611 or executivedirector@nrln.org.

The NRLN’s full Legislative Agenda and detailed whitepapers can be found at 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