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

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August 9, 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 am requesting that you soon call for a vote in the Energy and Commerce Committee on **(H. R. 2704) the Community Based Independence for Seniors Act of 2015.**

Enacting **H.R. 2704** would direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a Community-Based Institutional Special Needs Plan demonstration program to target home and community-based care to eligible Medicare beneficiaries age 65 or older.

This demonstration would be for low-income, Medicare-only beneficiaries who need help with two or more activities of daily living, the usual criteria for nursing home eligibility. The plans would tailor services to beneficiaries, depending on individual needs. For instance, they might provide assistance with bathing or dressing, housekeeping or transportation, or even respite care for their primary caregiver.

The goal is to prevent these Americans from having to enter an institution and spend down their remaining assets, thereby becoming eligible for Medicaid. It would help our seniors remain in their own homes, where studies show they wish to remain.

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