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

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February 10, 2019

The Honorable Lamar Alexander, Chairman  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions  
United States Senate  
455 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-4206

Dear Chairman Alexander:

On behalf of the more than 2 million retirees in all 50 states represented by the National Retirees Legislative Network (NRLN), I am writing to request that you call for a vote in the Energy and Commerce Committee on **S. 97, Affordable and Safe Prescription Drug Importation Act**, that would allow for the importation of affordable and safe prescription drugs.

Americans are paying the highest prices in the world for prescription drugs. The U.S. spends about 40 percent more on prescriptions per person than Canada and at least twice as much as the average major industrialized country. According to surveys by both the Commonwealth Fund and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, nearly 1 in 5 U.S. adults did not fill a prescription in the last year because they could not afford the price.

Passage of **S. 97** would lower the cost of prescription drugs for Americans by instructing the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue regulations allowing wholesalers, licensed U.S. pharmacies, and individuals to import prescription drugs manufactured at FDA-inspected facilities from licensed Canadian sellers. After two years, the Secretary would have the authority to permit importation from countries in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) that meet specified statutory or regulatory standards that are comparable to U.S. standards.

If your staff would like to learn more about why the NRLN supports the importation of safe, lower priced prescription drugs, please let me know or ask a member of your staff to contact Alyson Parker, at [executivedirector@nrln.org](mailto:executivedirector@nrln.org) or call 813-545-6792.

Sincerely,

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