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October 15, 2019

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1702

Dear Leader McConnell:

The more than 2 million retirees and future retirees represented by the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN), would deeply appreciate your calling for a House vote on **S. 1224, Stop STALLING Act**. (STALLING stands for Stop Significant and Time-wasting Abuse Limiting Legitimate Innovation of New Generics.) The bill was reported out of the Committee on the Judiciary and placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar on General Orders (Calendar No. 130) on June 28, 2019.

S. 1224 would reduce the incentives for branded pharmaceutical companies to introduce sham petitions to interfere with the regulatory approval of generics and biosimilars that would compete with their own prescription drugs. Sham petitions are a tactic that delays patient access to more affordable medications.

The **Stop STALLING Act** will help put an end to these abusive and anticompetitive practices which are presumptively illegal under the antitrust laws. It gives the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) authority to seek a civil penalty and other appropriate relief in response to the filing of sham petitions by drug manufacturers.

For several years, the NRLN has lobbied for legislation to end pay-for-delay and other brand name drugmakers' tactics that obstruct generic drugs from coming to market. The **Stop STALLING Act** addresses one of the "other tactics". Our other two objectives to reduce the price of prescription drugs include:

- Remove the prohibition on Medicare negotiating prescription drug prices and replace it with a competitive bidding business-based model (not negotiating) to be applied wherever two or more FDA approved generic drugs, or two or more brand drugs, or a generic and brand drugs (upon patent expiration) treat the same medical condition.
- Allow importation of safe and less expensive drugs from Canada and other countries that meet the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) quality and safety standards.

If the NRLN can be of assistance, beyond our lobbying efforts, to advance legislation to reduce the price of prescription drugs, please ask a member of your staff to contact me or Alyson Parker, the NRLN's Executive Director in Washington, DC at 813-545-6792 or executivedirector@nrln.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Kadereit". The signature is written in a cursive style with a light yellow highlight behind the name.

Bill Kadereit, President,
National Retiree Legislative Network
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