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

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January 3, 2021

The Honorable Chuck Grassley, Chairman Committee on Finance United States Senate 135 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510-1501

Dear Chairman Grassley:

On behalf of the more than 2 million retirees and future retirees represented by the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN), I am requesting that you re-introduce in the 117th Congress the **Prescription Drug Pricing Reduction Act.** 

It is our hope that in 2021 your bill will be passed in the Senate and the House will take up your bill. Or, the House will pass its own bill and both bills will go to a conference committee that will ultimately result in legislation to make prescription drugs more affordable.

## These are the provisions the NRLN liked in the **Prescription Drug Pricing Reduction Act of 2020:**

- -- Limit out-of-pocket medication costs faced by seniors to \$3,100, starting in 2022.
- -- Limit price hikes in Medicare to the rate of inflation.
- -- Require drug companies to provide a new discount of 7% on brand-name drugs in the initial phase of the benefit and reset the brand catastrophic discount to 14%.
- -- Direct insurers to offer a cap on the amount of out-pocketcosts that a beneficiary has to pay in any one month; spreading high out-of-pocket costs over multiple months to protect against the burden of a significant one-time expense.

NRLN requests that the removal of the prohibition on Medicare negotiating prescription drug prices and replace it with a competitive bidding mandate 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. Also, the NRLN believes there should be language in the bill to end pay-fordelay and other brand name drugmakers' tactics that keep generic drugs off the market and the importation of safe lower cost prescription drugs from Canada and other nations that meet Federal Drug Administration (FDA) safety standards.

Sincerely,

Bill Kedereit

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