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

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April 11, 2019

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
2107 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-3006

Dear Chairman Pallone:

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 call for a vote in the Committee on Energy and Commerce on **H.R. 1948, Lymphedema Treatment Act.**

Lymphedema is an incurable but treatable condition affecting between three and five million Americans. It is a chronic condition caused by injury, trauma, or congenital defects in the lymphatic system. If left untreated or inadequately treated, it can lead to complications including loss of function, disability, and in some cases, death.

H.R. 1948 should be passed by the Committee on Energy and Commerce because it would increase and improve care for Medicare beneficiaries with lymphedema by requiring Medicare Part B to cover physician-prescribed compression therapy garments, which are essential in the effective treatment of lymphedema. These items include multi-layer compression bandaging systems, custom or standard fit compression garments, non- or low-elastic compression garments and wraps, and other compression items determined by the Secretary of Health and Human Services to be effective in preventing or treating lymphedema.

H.R. 1948 has strong support in the House with 111 bipartisan cosponsors. The companion bill in the Senate, **S. 518**, has 57 bipartisan cosponsors.

To learn more about why the NRLN supports **H.R. 1948**, 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.

The NRLN's full Legislative Agenda and detailed whitepapers can be found at www.nrln.org. Your consideration on these issues would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

President, National Retiree Legislative Network
Phone: 972-722-5928
Email: president@nrln.org