



601 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Suite 900, South Building
Washington, D.C. 20004-2601
Tel: 202-220-3172 Toll-Free: 1-866-360-7197
Email: contact@nrln.org Website: www.nrln.org

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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 Ron Wyden, Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-3703

Dear Senator Wyden:

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 support calling for a vote in the Committee on Finance on **S. 518, 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.

S. 668 should be passed by the Committee on Finance 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.

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

To learn more about why the NRLN supports **S. 518**, 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