



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

Board of Directors

Bill Kadereit, President / **Robert Tompkins**, VP – Secretary / Treasurer / **Judy Stenberg**, VP – Legislative Affairs / **Dana Oliver**, VP - Regulatory Affairs / **Joe Dombrowski**, VP - Membership / **Bob Martina**, V P – Grassroots Network / **Joseph R. (Dick) Ciocca** / **Martha Deahl** / **Jay Kuhnle** / **Chuck Gilbert** / **Cynthia Hadsell** / **Mike Stohlmeyer** / **Larry Smith**

Washington & Support Staff

Alyson Parker, Executive Director / **Michael Calabrese**, Legislative Adviser / **Ed Beltram**, VP - Communications / **Joe Sciuilli**, Webmaster

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

Aetna / Agere / Agilent / Albertson / American Airlines / Ameritech/SBC / AMF / American Mutual / Amica Mutual / Archdiocese of Boston / ARXE, Inc. / AT&T / Avaya / Avin Meritor / Avon / Ball Aerospace / Baltimore Public Schools / Bell Atlantic / Bell Helicopter / Bendix / BOC Group / Boeing / California State Employees / Caterpillar / C & P Telephone / CenturyLink / Chrysler / City of San Diego / College of New Rochelle / CO DOT / CO PERA / Commonwealth Edison / Commscope / Connectivity Solutions / Consolidated Edison / Continental Airlines / Continental General Tire / CORBE, Inc. / Cox Media / CSX Transportation / CWA / Datatronics / Del Monte / Delphi / Delta Air Lines / Dept. of Justice / Detroit Edison / Detroit Diesel / DHS-FEMA / Diamond State / Digital Equipment / DTE Energy / DuPont / Eastman Chemical Co. / Embarq / Enco Alloys / Entergy Operations, Inc. / Exelon / FedEx / Fidelity / Fisher Scientific Co. / Ford / General Electric / General Motors / General Telephone / Gulf Oil / Hartford / Hoechst Celanese / Holophane / Honeywell Vorr / Hughes Aircraft / HWB / IBEW / IBM / Illinois Bell / Illinois Teachers Assn. / Indiana Bell / J. I. Case Corp. / John Deere / JNJ / Johns Manville / Johnson & Johnson / Kaman Corp. / Kansas City Schools / Kodak / Lockheed Martin / Lucent / Marlboro / McDonnell Douglas / MCI / MetLife / Mich Con / MI Public Schools / Mobil Oil / Monsanto/Solutia / MST&T Co. / NARFE / NASD / NEA / Net Co. / Nevada Bell / Niagara Mohawk Power / NJEA / NJ Public Employee / North Memorial Medical Center / NSTAR / Northwest Airlines / Northwestern Bell / NYNEX / NY Teachers / Ohio Bell / OK Teachers / Oregon PERS / OSRAM Sylvania / PacBell / PBGC / PECO Energy / Pension Actuary / Pfizer / Phila Electric Co. / Polaroid / Port Authority of NY & NJ / Portland GE-Enron / Prudential / PSERS of PA / Public Service of Colorado / Raytheon / Rock-Tenn Co. / Rocky Mount Mills / Rohm & Haas Co. / Rouse Co. / Salis / Sears / SEIU/CSEA / Sempra Energy / Southern New England Tel / Southwestern Bell / Spherion Corp. / Springs Mills / Sprint / State of MI / Supermedia LLC / Teamsters / Telesector Resources Group / Telcordia / Tennessee Valley Authority / Texas Instruments / TIAA-CREF / Transamerica / UCLA / Ullico / Union Pacific / UnitedHealthCare / United Airlines / University of California / UPS / U.S. Air Force / U.S. Airways / U.S. Bureau of Reclamation / U.S. Marine Corp. / U.S. Air Force / U.S. Army / U.S. Navy / USAF Trucking / US West-Qwest / USPS / Verizon / Visteon / WA PERS / Wells Fargo / Western Union / Weyerhaeuser /

February 9, 2017

The Honorable David Cicilline, Ranking Member,
Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial
and Antitrust Law
U.S. House of Representatives
U.S. House of Representatives
2244 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-3901

Dear Representative Cicilline:

On behalf of the more than 2 million members of the National Retirees Legislative Network (NRLN), I am requesting that you support calling for a vote in the Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law on **H.R. 138, Protecting Employees and Retirees in Business Bankruptcies Act of 2017.**

This bill is especially important to retirees because it would amend Section 502 of title 11 of the United States Code to allow a claim by an active or retired participant in a defined benefit plan terminated under section 4042 of ERISA for any shortfall in pensions benefits accrued as a result of plan termination not withstanding any claim asserted and collected by the PBGC with respect to such plan termination.

Passage of this bill would be very beneficial to members of the NRLN Avaya Retirees Chapter. Avaya filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy on January 19, 2017. The company, effective February 1, 2017, stopped payments to retirees on a Disability Pension and ended supplemental pension payments. Retirees are concerned there will be even more harmful actions against them by Avaya and/or the bankruptcy court.

If you have any questions about why the NRLN is supporting H.R. 138, please contact Alyson Parker, NRLN Executive Director, at executivedirector@nrln.org or at 813-545-6792.

Your calling for a vote and support of H.R. 138 that could move the bill to the Judiciary Committee would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Bill Kadereit, President
National Retiree Legislative Network