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November 1, 2021

The Honorable Martin Heinrich
United States Senate
303 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-3103

Dear Senator Heinrich:

On behalf of the more than 2 million retirees and future retirees represented by the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN), I want to thank you for introducing **S.2149, Donald Payne Sr. Colorectal Cancer Detection Act of 2021**. We hope that your bill will be passed out of Committee on Finance and be passed by the Senate.

It is unfortunate that only 1 in 3 Americans are up to date on their colorectal cancer screening. Enacting your bill would make it easier for people to access all screening options for colon cancer, including non-evasive blood-based screening tests.

An important aspect of **S.2149** is that it would place all Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved blood-based screening tests on equal footing with other screening methods and authorize reimbursement from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS). Currently, the lack of authorization for reimbursement from Medicare is preventing many seniors from accessing all screening options for colorectal cancer.

I am also sending a letter Representative Donald Payne to thank him for introducing **H.R.1655**, the companion bill to **S.2149** in the House.

If you have any questions about the NRLN's support for **S.2149** please contact me of Alyson Parker, NRLN Executive Director, on her cell phone at 813-545-6792 or executivedirector@nrln.org.

Sincerely,

Bill Kadereit, President
National Retiree Legislative Network
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