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

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April 4, 2022

The Honorable Ron Wyden, Chairman
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-3703

Dear Chairman 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 call for votes in the Committee on Finance on the following three bills.

S.141, End Taxpayer Subsidies for Drug Ads Act, would prohibit pharmaceutical drug manufacturers from claiming tax deductions for expenses on advertising directly to consumers. Under current law, drug manufacturers are allowed to deduct the cost of advertising expenses from federal taxes. It is estimated that nearly one third of the growth in U.S. drug spending can be attributed to the increase in advertising for prescription drugs. This aggressive advertising increases demand and motivates drug companies to increase prices.

S.1450, Access to Genetic Counselor Services Act of 2021, would provide Medicare Part B reimbursement for services from board-certified genetic counselors.

S.3675, Beneficiary Enrollment Notification and Eligibility Simplification (BENES) 2.0 Act, would simplify Medicare enrollment for seniors and people with disabilities. The bill would require the federal government to provide advance notice to people approaching Medicare eligibility about basic Medicare enrollment rules. Currently, seniors who miss the sign-up deadline for Medicare Part B face penalties that persist for the rest of their lives.

If you would like to learn more about why the NRLN supports **S.141**, **S.1450** and **S.3675**, please contact me or 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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Phone: 972-722-5928