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

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June 6, 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 a vote in the Committee on Finance on the following bills.

S.4130, Patient Access to Higher Quality Health Care Act of 2021, would remove the Affordable Care Act's (ACA) ban on the creation and expansion of physician-owned hospitals (POHs). It would allow POHs to participate in Medicare and Medicaid as well as increase competition among hospitals with lower costs and expanded access to quality care for more Americans.

S.2612, Prevent Interruptions in Physical Therapy Act of 2021, would build upon a provision which was signed into law as part of the 21st Century Cures Act to give physical therapists in rural, medically underserved, and health professional shortage areas the ability to use locum tenens arrangements to ensure their patients continue to receive quality care during a temporary provider absence (e.g. illness, family leave, or continued professional education). The bill extends this same arrangement to all physical therapists for Medicare patients, many of whom already face difficulty finding a qualified physical therapist in parts of the country due to a current shortage in the field.

S, 2609, Facilitating Innovative Nuclear Diagnostics Act of 2021, would ensure adequate Medicare reimbursement to hospitals for procedures that use radiopharmaceuticals to diagnose, evaluate, and treat faster specific conditions such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's, as well as certain cancers. Radiopharmaceuticals are small amounts of radioactive material used to capture molecular-level images of what is happening in a patient's body.

If you would like to learn more about why the NRLN supports **S.4130**, **S.2612** and **S.2609** please contact me or Alyson Parker, NRLN Executive Director, on her cell phone at 813-545-6792 or executivedirector@nrln.org.

Sincerely,

Bill Kadereit

Bill Kadereit, President National Retiree Legislative Network

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