



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](mailto:contact@nrln.org) Website: [www.nrln.org](http://www.nrln.org)  
[www.facebook.com/nrln1](http://www.facebook.com/nrln1) [www.twitter.com/nrln3](http://www.twitter.com/nrln3)

#### Board of Directors

**Bill Kadereit**, President / **Janet Seefried**, VP – Secretary / Treasurer  
/ **Ed Beltram**, VP – Communications / **Vern Larson**, VP –  
Membership Development / **Bob Martina**, VP – Grassroots  
Network / **Dana Oliver**, VP - Regulatory / **Joe Sciulli**, VP – Social  
Media / **Judy Stenberg**, VP – Legislative Affairs / **Jane Banfield** /  
**Martha Deahl** / **Cynthia Hadsell** / **Jay Kuhnle**

#### Washington & Support Staff

**Alyson Parker**, Executive Director  
**Michael Calabrese**, Legislative Adviser

#### *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 / Nokia / 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/ Xerox/

July 7, 2020

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 to approve **S. 1872, Protecting Seniors Through Immunization Act of 2019.**

Passage of **S. 1872** would reduce financial barriers by providing Medicare coverage of vaccines recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices with no additional cost-sharing for beneficiaries. This would apply immediately to shingles, tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (Tdap). Medicare coverage also would apply to new vaccines as they are approved, like the anticipated vaccines against respiratory syncytial virus and clostridium difficile. It should also apply when a vaccine is approved to prevent COVID-19.

Immunization coverage varies by vaccine under Medicare. Some immunizations – such as the flu, hepatitis B, and pneumococcal vaccines – are covered under Medicare Part B and available without additional out-of-pocket spending. Vaccines covered under Medicare Part D, including the shingles and Tdap vaccines, often require significant beneficiary cost-sharing. Too many seniors on Medicare weigh the health benefits of getting immunized against the out-of-pocket cost of immunizations.

**S. 1872** would improve the education of Medicare beneficiaries by including information about coverage of vaccines in the Medicare & You Handbook and require a study on the level of immunizations among Medicare beneficiaries.

To learn more about why the NRLN supports passage of **S. 1872**, 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](mailto:executivedirector@nrln.org). Please let me know whether you will support the passage of **S. 1872**.

Sincerely,

Bill Kadereit, President,  
National Retiree Legislative Network  
Phone: 972-722-5928 Email: [president@nrln.org](mailto:president@nrln.org)