



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 Facebook:
www.facebook.com/nrln1 Twitter: www.twitter.com/nrln3

Board of Directors

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

Washington 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 / AT&T-
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 / BellSouth / 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 / Cooper Tires/
CORBE, Inc. / Corvea / 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 / RECSEA / 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 / United
Telephone / 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/

March 7, 2023

The Honorable Dick Durbin, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1304

Dear Chairman Durbin:

On behalf of the more than 2 million retirees and future retirees who compose the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN), I want to commend you and the members of the Committee on the Judiciary who voted to report out of Committee on March 1, 2023, four very important bills. Please follow up your Committee's efforts by encouraging Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer to call for a vote on the bills very soon.

The bills the Committee members believed are important are also important to NRLN members. The bills are:

S.113, Prescription Pricing for the People Act of 2023 requires the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to examine the effects of consolidation in the Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBM) industry on pricing, as well as other potentially abusive behavior by PBMs. The bill instructs the FTC to provide policy recommendations to Congress to improve competition and protect consumers. While the FTC has initiated a 6(b) study into PBM business practices, it is important the FTC conduct a thorough and timely study of the pharmaceutical supply chain. Also, the bill bans deceptive unfair pricing schemes, prohibits arbitrary claw backs of payments made to pharmacies and requires PBMs to report to the FTC how much money they make through spread pricing and pharmacy fees.

S.142, Preserve Access to Affordable Generics and Biosimilars Act would limit anticompetitive "pay-for-delay" deals that prevent or delay the introduction of affordable follow-on versions of branded pharmaceuticals. Pay-for-delay deals happen when pharmaceutical drug companies pay brand name companies to delay the introduction of cheaper substitutes, increasing the cost of prescriptions and imposing significant costs on America's healthcare system. The legislation covers pay-for-delay deals affecting biosimilar and interchangeable biologics in addition to generic drugs.

S.148, Stop STALLING (Significant and Time-wasting Abuse Limiting Legitimate Innovation of New Generics) Act would deter pharmaceutical companies from filing sham petitions with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in order to interfere with the approval of generic and biosimilar medicines that compete with their own brand products, a tactic that delays patient access to affordable medications. The bill would also give the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) enhanced authority to take action against those who file sham petitions.

S.150, Affordable Prescriptions for Patients Act of 2023. Some pharmaceutical manufacturers have been deliberately abusing the patent system to prevent potential competitors from entering the marketplace through tactics like “product hopping” and abuse of the “patent dance” process. This bill would stop abuses of America’s patent system and pave the way for generics and biosimilars to compete with branded drugs and aggressively lower drug prices for consumers in the process. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) would be authorized to put an end to product hopping by drug manufacturers by imposing limits on patent litigation involving biological products.

If you or your staff would like to know more about why we support the above bills, let me know or contact Alyson Parker, Executive Director in Washington, DC at executivedirector@nrln.org or call 813-545-6792.

Sincerely,



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