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April 3, 2023

The Honorable Mike Crapo, Ranking Member
Committee on Finance
United States Senate
239 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1205

Dear Senator Crapo:

On behalf of the more than 2 million members of the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN), I am requesting that you support calling for votes in the Committee on Finance on 4 bills: **S.213, Keep Our Promises Act, S.260, Promoting Access to Diabetic Shoes Act, S.470, Patient Access to Higher Quality Health Care Act of 2023, and S.663, Metastatic Breast Cancer Access to Care Act.**

Passage of **S.213** would, in the event of a debt limit crisis, ensure that Social Security and Medicare payments would be made in full and timely by authorizing the Treasury Department to issue debt obligations even though the debt limit had been reached.

Passage of **S.260** would improve diabetic patients' access to therapeutic shoes by allowing nurse practitioners (NPs) and physician associates/physician assistants (PAs) - who often act as sole primary care providers for many patients with diabetes – to prescribe this important health care device.

Passage of **S.470** would repeal the Affordable Care Act's ban on new physician owned hospitals. Since 2010, a provision in Affordable Care Act has prohibited physicians from opening new hospitals or expanding hospitals they already own. Lawmakers inserted this disastrous provision because of a concerted campaign from hospital lobbyists to ban highly skilled physicians from offering an affordable alternative to expensive hospital care.

Passage of **S.663**, would waive the 5-month waiting period for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits and the subsequent 24-month waiting period for Medicare coverage for individuals with metastatic breast cancer.

If you would like to learn more about why the NRLN supports these 4 bills please contact me or Alyson Parker, NRLN Executive Director in Washington, DC, at executivedirector@nrln.org or call 813-545-6792.

Sincerely,

Bill Kadereit, President
National Retiree Legislative Network
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Phone: 972-722-5928