



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) Facebook:  
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#### *The NRLN advocates the rights of more than 2 million American retirees from...*

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May 2, 2023

The Honorable Jason Smith, Chair  
Committee on Ways and Means  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1011 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Smith:

On behalf of the more than 2 million members of the National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN) I am requesting that you call for votes in the Committee on Ways and Means on three bills: **H.R. 1637**, Comprehensive Care For Alzheimer's Act; **H.R. 1638**, Improving Access to Mental Health Act of 2023, and **H.R.2407**, Nancy Gardner Sewell Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage Act.

**H.R.1637** would help the 95% of individuals with dementia that have one or more other chronic conditions, such as hypertension, heart disease and diabetes. Passage of the **H.R.1637** would improve the lives of those living with Alzheimer's disease by providing comprehensive care management services; establishing high standards of care by evaluating the quality of care provided to patients; eliminating cost-sharing for patients and pay providers a monthly amount based on the complexity and quality of the patient's care; ensuring that caregivers are supported and able to participate in the coordination and management of care, and requiring outreach to underrepresented populations, as well as culturally appropriate care.

**H.R.1638** would increase the Medicare payment reimbursement rate for clinical social workers from 75% to 85% of the physician fee schedule. This would align Medicare payments for clinical social workers with that of other non-physician providers such as nurse practitioners and physician assistants.

**H.R.2407** would allow Medicare to cover emerging blood-based cancer screenings which hold the potential to catch cancer earlier than ever before. Currently, screening is for only five cancers and just 14% of cancers are found through screening. It is important that seniors have timely access to blood-based cancer screening since age is the primary risk factor for cancer and more than 70% of cancer diagnoses are in the Medicare population.

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

Sincerely,

Bill Kadereit, President

National Retiree Legislative Network

Email: [president@nrln.org](mailto:president@nrln.org) Phone: 972-722-5928