

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: <u>contact@nrln.org</u> Website: <u>www.nrln.org</u> Facebook: <u>www.facebook.com/nrln1</u> Twitter: <u>www.twitter.com/nrln3</u> Board of Directors

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

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September 5, 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 a vote in the Committee on Finance on **S.1000, Saving Access to Laboratory Services Act (SALSA).**

S.1000 would address what has been years of deep Medicare payment cuts, while updating Medicare's payment system to ensure clinical laboratory services are sustainable. Between 2017 and 2022, payment for some common tests for diseases like diabetes, cancer, and heart disease were cut by 27%. The next round of Medicare cuts would lower reimbursements up to another 15% for about 800 laboratory tests used to screen and manage many serious diseases. It is essential that Congress protect patients by acting this year to fix the Medicare payment model for clinical diagnostic tests.

If you would like to learn more about why NRLN supports this bill, please contact me or Alyson Parker, NRLN Executive Director in Washington, DC, at <u>parkerstrategies@gmail.com</u> or call 813-545-6792.

Sincerely,

Bill Kadereit

Bill Kadereit, President National Retiree Legislative Network Email: <u>bkad@sbcglobal.net</u> Phone: 972-722-5928