



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

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September 12, 2023

The Honorable Bill Cassidy, Ranking Member
Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
United States Senate
455 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cassidy:

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 Health, Education, Labor and Pensions on **S.2510, Rolling Active Pharmaceutical Ingredient and Drug (RAPID) Reserve Act**.

This bill would require the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to award contracts to quality generic drug manufacturers, who are either based in the United States or in a country that is a member of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), to build and maintain reserves of critical drugs. The legislation would require awardees to keep sufficient reserves of key ingredients and finished drug products on hand and bolster production capacity to help prevent potential shortages before they occur.

S.2510 would also help encourage domestic production of these medications by ensuring that U.S. based manufacturers are prioritized for federal contracts.

This proposed legislation builds on recommendations from 2019 and 2023 reports which found that generic drug manufacturers' ability to surge production and store supplies are often limited because they regularly operate at or near full capacity.

If you would like to learn more about why NRLN supports **S.2510**, please contact me or Alyson Parker, NRLN Executive Director in Washington, DC, at parkerstrategies@gmail.com or call 813-545-6792.

Sincerely,

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