



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

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

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December 5, 2023

The Honorable Lloyd Doggett, Ranking Member
Committee on Ways and Means
Subcommittee on Health
U.S. House of Representatives
2307 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Doggett:

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 Subcommittee on Health on the following bills:

H.R.3875, Expanded Telehealth Access Act, would permanently allow audiologists, physical therapists, occupational therapists, speech-language pathologists, and other providers designated by the Centers for Medicare undefined Medicaid Services (CMS) to provide telehealth services under Medicare. Currently, the CMS is authorized to waive requirements for Medicare telehealth services during the public health emergency relating to COVID-19, and it has done so to allow all providers that are otherwise eligible to furnish in-person services under Medicare to also furnish telehealth services.

This bill is especially important for people living in rural and underserved areas, where a trip to seek specific treatments may entail a long journey. The Expanded Telehealth Access Act will enable seniors to continue receiving quality, accessible care, and delivery.

H.R.4261, Amputation Reduction and Compassion (ARC) Act of 2023, would require Medicare and Medicaid to fully cover screening tests for beneficiaries who are at-risk of Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD). PAD occurs when blood flow is reduced to the arms and legs because arteries become narrowed or blocked with fatty deposits. It is a similar condition to the one that causes heart attacks, which is why PAD sufferers have a higher risk of heart attacks and strokes.

Today, 21 million Americans have or are at risk for PAD and an estimated 200,000 of them will need an amputation. But these amputations could be prevented if PAD is screened and diagnosed early.

If you would like to learn more about why NRLN supports these bills, 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