

# The NRLN Clarion Call...



Bill Kadereit, President | National Retiree Legislative Network

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## Fly-In takes NRLN Issues to Capitol Hill

Rain from tropical storm Ophelia moved away from Washington, DC on Sunday afternoon, September 24, 2023, as flights began arriving for some of the NRLN members attending the NRLN Fly-In to advocate issues important to retirees. Other attendees flew into the nation's capital on Monday.

Four retiree Associations and eight Chapters were represented at the event. The Associations included Alliance of DTE Energy Retirees (DEAR), AT&T/Ameritech/SBC Retirees (AASBCR), National Chrysler Retirement Organization (NCRO), and TelCo Retirees Association (TelCo). Chapters included Arizona, New Mexico, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Lucent/Nokia Retirees Chapter.

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**FOCUS - IN THE NEWS:**



**Protecting Retirees in Pension Risk Transfers - "De-Risking"**

One of the core principles of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA) is its anti-cutback rule. No pension risk transfer should make a retiree or other participant worse off.

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*Lucy Schmitz (left) Legislative Assistant for Rep. Sean Casten (IL-06) listens to presentations from Mary Foley, President, and Thomas Gray, Director, AT&T/Ameritech/SBC Retirees (AASBCR).*

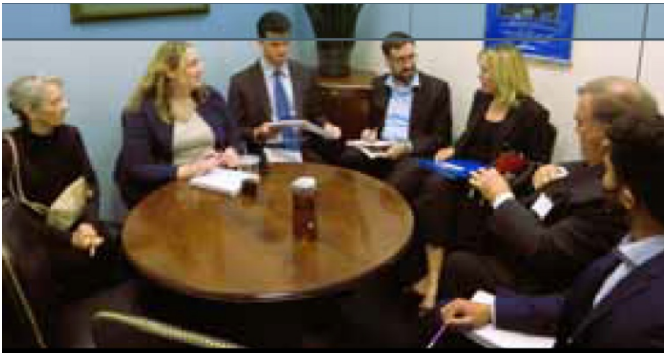


*(Middle) Ken Gornall, President, Arizona Chapter, and Jennifer Gornall, pause for a photo with Rep. Raul Grijalva (AZ-07) and Kesley Mishkin (left) Deputy Chief of Staff.*

## **Congress' Privatization Attempt of Medicare Advantage Fails:**

Privatization of Medicare through Medicare Advantage (MA) plans have increased costs, income taxes, and jeopardized our children's and grandchildren's healthcare futures.

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*Jane Banfield (left), VP TelCo Retirees Association, Alyson Parker, NRLN Executive Director, and NRLN President Bill Kadereit, hold a discussion on Pension Plan De-risking with members of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.*

## **Funding Social Security Is Essential to Keeping America's Promise:**

Members of Congress must recognize that Social Security is not a welfare program paid for by the U.S. Government. Social Security is funded by payroll taxes and cannot add a penny to the federal debt. The NRLN

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## Congress Should Do More to Reduce Price of Prescription Drugs:

The NRLN lobbied for passage of the following bills: S.142, Preserve Access to Affordable Generics and Biosimilars Act would prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating drug companies to delay the entry of a generic and biological drugs into the market. S.127...

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*Max Seifert (left), Legislative Assistant for Rep. Lloyd Doggett (TX-37), engages in a conversation about Medicare Advantage plans with NRLN President Bill Kadereit, and Alyson Parker, NRLN Executive Director.*



## A View from Washington, DC

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By Alyson Parker, NRLN Executive Director

### More Chaos Than Usual in U.S. House

With the next budget deadline a few weeks away, it will be a challenge for the new Speaker to reach agreement on federal spending. A number of House Republicans are calling for massive spending cuts while more centrist members of the party look to fund their legislative priorities.

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## MORE IMPORTANT RETIREE NEWS:

- Make Health Coverage Tax Credit (HCTC) Permanent
- Pass the Susan Muffley Act to Restore Pensions for Delphi Salaried Retirees



We are committed to keeping you informed about your retiree benefits, pension funds, medical and drug costs and the truth about Medical Advantage Plans. [Read Here our President's Forum](#) that features a current topic on any one these issues.

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