



AT&T Ameritech /SBC Retirees – We are AASBCR®

Proudly working on behalf of the Bell System and successor companies of the New AT&T, located throughout the World

Legislative Ledger

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Support the National Retiree Legislative Network's Efforts to Reduce Prescription Drug Prices

The Social Security Administration will provide a Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) increase of 5.9% in 2022. This means that among the 64 million receiving Social Security payments the average participant will have an extra \$70.40 monthly to deal with the increased U.S. inflation, after paying for the increase in the Medicare Part B premium. Unfortunately, seniors healthcare expenses beyond Medicare, Medicare Advantage and Medicaid are NOT included in the Social Security COLA calculations.

A November 11 Barron's article noted a study by MedicareGuide.com that recently estimated prescription drugs alone gobble up more than \$7,500 a year and "are rising substantially faster than general inflation in every year."

The National Retiree Legislative Network (NRLN), an organization that AASBCR® is affiliated with and supports, is lobbying Congress to pass legislation to:

1. Remove the prohibition on Medicare negotiating prescription drug prices. It should replace it with a competitive bidding mandate to be applied wherever two or more FDA approved generic drugs, or two or more brand drugs, or a generic and brand drugs (upon patent expiration) treat the same medical condition.
2. End pay-for-delay and other brand-name drugmakers' tactics that keep generic drugs off the market.
3. Allow individuals to import prescription drugs manufactured at FDA-inspected facilities from licensed Canadian sellers and import drugs from other countries that meet FDA safety standards.

To support this and other NRLN activity, AASBCR® encourages you to invite your family members and friends to sign up to receive NRLN email messages. When people are better informed on retirement issues, they are more likely to communicate with their members of Congress in support of NRLN position.

Your family members and friends can sign up at: <https://nrln.org/email-sign-up>. The sign-up form has places to type in home street address, city, state and zip code so the NRLN system can identify your Congressional district for its lobbying efforts. NRLN will never provide or sell their information to a third party, nor will they ever be sent any spam emails.

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