DEAR REPRESENTATIVE KNOLLENBERG:

Please oppose DoD proposals to make thousands of military retirees pay up to $2,000 more each year for their military health care and pharmacy coverage. Defense leaders want disproportionate fee hikes to help pay for weapons systems and make military benefits track more closely to civilian plans.

Military retirees already paid higher premiums than any civilian — and paid them up-front, through decades of service and sacrifice. Military health and retirement benefits must be the best to help offset arduous military service conditions. Cutting benefits will only hurt long-term retention and readiness.

The world's largest military and economic superpower can afford to pay for both weapons and military health care. *Please cosponsor S. 604 (Sens. Lautenberg and Hagel) or H.R. 579 (Reps. Edwards and Jones) to establish reasonable standards for military health care fees.*

Sincerely,

