

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515
June 29, 2005

President George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

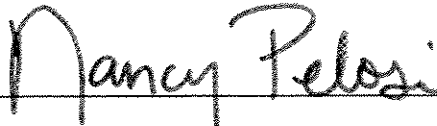
We are writing to request that you submit a FY 2005 supplemental funding request adding at least \$1.3 billion to address the shortfall in veterans' health care funding that your Administration has identified. This additional funding is urgently needed today to care for troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as the heroes from former conflicts who rely upon the VA for their health care. In addition, we request that you submit an amended FY 2006 budget to account for the veterans' health care shortfall that is now evident in your Administration's 2006 budget request.

In our estimation, your FY 2005 VA budget request was short \$2.5 billion. While Congress added \$1.2 billion, your budget remained \$1.3 billion short. It appears the VA now agrees with our original estimate.

The 2006 budget request was similarly short. What is even more troubling is that funding for veterans' health care beyond 2007 is cut significantly below the amount needed merely to account for inflation. In the future, we urge you to submit veterans' budgets that more accurately reflect the resource requirements of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the health care needs of current veterans and the many thousands returning from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. At a time of war, funding for veterans must be made a clear and unmistakable priority.

We await the submission of your FY 2005 supplemental funding request and amended FY 2006 budget.

Sincerely,





Chet Edwards

Flynn

Robert Menendez

James E. Clyburn

John Sprau

Calvin Emanuel

Rosa L. L...

George Miller

He H...

Van Okey

Jim PM

Pro Angel

Charles Blangul

Tom Lantos

Joe Harm

Bennie G Thompson

Jed Strickland

Lynn C. Woolsey

Mi V. Gutierrez

Bart Gordon

Bart Sypak

Bob Filner

Dalene Hooley

Solomon P. Ortiz

Wanda J. Valenzuela

Robert E. Anderson

Roberts

Vin Snyder

Danny K. Garcia

Shelley Berkley

Stephanie Joseph

Michael H. Michael

Dois O. Matsui

Gene Taylor

Nita Lavery

Alan B. McWhorter

Peter Vadoris

Barney Frank

Gary S. Askeeman

Joe L. Sweeney

Alan d. Hastings

Donald M. Payne

Henry A. Waxman

~~Colleen Hanley~~

Phil Franks

Cale E. Childs

Edward G. Markey

Richard E. Neal

Mary Kaptur

Jim Oberstar

Richard Owens

Gene Lamm

Louella Boyd-Allard

Tim Holder

Conaly B. Maloney

Maurice Anderson

Eric Faleonavaez

Sanford Bishop Jr.

Paul Blumenthal

Cosine Brown

Rubin Hinojosa

Norm Dick

Ben Cardin

Gregory P. Costello

Bruce Johnson

Betty McCollum

Jim McDermott

Ellen Fausch

Kenneth G. Mac

Tom Farn

Bill B. Baird

Ron Kind

Henry Cuellar

Michael E. Caputo

Diana DeGette

Neil Abernethy

Grace D. Unzueta

CA Dutch Zupersberger

Hilda L. Davis

Dennis J. Kucera

Tom Alb

John Delaney

Mike Doyle

J. Hunter

Jim Davis

Dan Brown

Tim Ryan

John Smith

Mark Udall

John Doggett

Zoe Lofgren

Carolyn McCantley

Ed Cox

Art Ryan

Vince Mcintyre

James McGovern

John B. Lamm

Jim Holt

Annal. Davis

Ann Cochran

Ben Chandler

Linda J. Sanchez

Rush Holt

Mai Bray

Tony Baldwin

Joretta Sanchez

Elijah E. Cummings

Earl Koenig

Stephan Pihler Spa

John W. Oliver

Bill Deibel

Jim Langevin

John F. Tierney

Debra Wasserman Schultz

Mark Wexler

Kiane E. Watson

Phil Stark

Frank Ray
Harold Jones

Mike Row

Paul A. Lyons

Robert

John Lewis

Paul Scott

Allen Boyd

Jim Matheson

Steve Rothman

Jan Odell

Chris Van Hollen

Leann H. Bannock

Julia Carson

~~Walter~~

Eddie Eunice Johnson

J. M. Christ

Lois Capps

~~Gregory W. Maska~~

Albert R. Upton

Brain Agg

Jinba

Frank Palle

Madeline J. Boudelle

Bill Kerec

Allyn G. van

Paul Bowler

Ernie L. Engle

~~William A. McHardy~~ Ed Bus

Jim Moran

Janet Lovin

Shenod Brower

Nick Rehall

Judd Radler

Alvin Johnston

John Long

Bob Lane

Mark Murb

David Price

Paul Kargin

Maxine Waters

Nick Zeman

Wm. Lacy Clay

Nick Thompson

Christy Helmer

Gene Isaac

D. Cook

Melvin Bean

Jim Hagball

Keith Dean

Carolyn C. Kilpatrick

John Barrow

Sp. Lopez

John DeBakey

Daniel Lipinski

Tim Z.

Steve Snow

Joe Bann

Carl Schiff

Stephen H. H. H.

Arten Davis

Barbara Lee

Mike Honda

Emil C.

R. Green

John S.

Brad S.

Don. J.

Wendell

Martin Olav Sabo

Howard S. Berner

Louise M. Slaughter

Ed Foster

David W

Ann Dunn

Rail of Arizona

Rob a Brady

~~1112~~ Zshoo

Patrick J. Kennedy

Shirley W

Robert J. ~~Wright~~

Bob Cannon

Paul Fattah

Bobby L. Bush

Bill Buchanan

Cyne: