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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC

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The Honorable Jonathan Perlin
Under Secretary for Health
Veterans Health Administration
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20420

Dear Dr. Perlin:

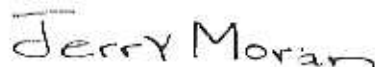
Integrating chiropractic services into the Veterans' Health Administration (VHA) has been a priority for me in Congress. While the VHA has made progress to realize this goal, much work remains.

I am pleased that the Kansas City Veterans Affairs Medical Center has been designated as a facility for chiropractic services. However, I would like to know the status of the chiropractic program in Kansas City and what the next steps are in your implementation plan. As a representative from a predominantly rural district, I am concerned that having only one location for chiropractic services in each Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) will not adequately serve veterans. With the lone chiropractic program for VISN 15 being located in Kansas City, a veteran living in the western part of the region will have to travel over 400 miles to receive services. Considering the fact that VISN 15 covers five states, I request that after the initial stages of implementing this program, you look at ways to increase access to chiropractic services.

In addition, I would like to know the current status of the VHA chiropractic program's implementation across the nation. I would like to know: how many facilities have been designated, which cities they are located in, and how many of these facilities have hired chiropractors.

As Vice Chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health, I am committed to improving the quality, range, and accessibility of health care services for our nation's veterans. I look forward to continuing to work with you to achieve this goal.

Very truly yours,



Jerry Moran

JM:dh