



THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

November 12, 2004

Garrett F. Cuneo
Executive Vice President
American Chiropractic Association
1701 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Mr. Cuneo:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Chiropractic Advisory Committee. It is gratifying to know that you are pleased with the accomplishments of the committee and recognize the leadership that Ms. Sara McVicker, Clinical Program Manager, has provided in facilitating this important work.

Public Law (Pub. L.) 107-135, Section 204, g(4) authorized the committee through December 31, 2004, and extension would require legislative action by Congress. Since VA is just beginning to provide chiropractic care at VA facilities, I believe, as recommended by the committee, that non-VA doctors of chiropractic should be involved in the evaluation and monitoring of the implementation of chiropractic care in VA facilities. Therefore, I will use my authority under Pub. L. 92-463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) to establish a one year non-statutory extension of the chiropractic advisory committee to enable non-VA doctors of chiropractic to serve as full voting members to provide advice and counsel to me. The extension will allow the committee to review and assess the implementation of its recommendations. It is my intention to retain the members of the current VA Chiropractic Advisory Committee on this new committee, if they desire to continue their service.

Thank you for your interest and support in enhancing the care provided to our Nation's veterans. Ms. McVicker will be able to keep you informed on the process of forming the new committee. She may be reached at (202) 273-8559.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Anthony J. Principi", is written in black ink.

Anthony J. Principi