DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Washington DC 20420

July 10, 2026

In Reply Refer To: 001B
FOIA Request: 26-16843-F

Emma Lewis
American Oversight
1030 15th Street NW, Suite B255
Washington, DC 20005
foia@americanoversight.org

Dear Ms. Lewis, Esq.,

This is the Initial Agency Decision (IAD) to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the Office of the Secretary, U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs (OSVA) dated October 2, 2025, received October 3, 2025, and assigned FOIA tracking number **26-16843-F**.

You requested the following:
"All email communications (including emails, email attachments, complete email chains, calendar invitations, and calendar invitation attachments) sent by any of the officials listed below to any of the external entities listed below **from September 1, 2025, through the date the search is conducted.**
VA Officials:
a. Douglas Collins, Secretary
b. Paul Lawrence, Deputy Secretary
c. Curt Cashour, Chief of Staff
d. Jen Burch, Deputy Chief of Staff
e. Joshua Quill, Deputy Chief of Staff
f. Shana Love-Holmon, Deputy Chief of Staff
g. Lavin Gartland, White House Liaison and Senior Advisor
h. Christopher Syrek, former Chief of Staff
i. Cortney McCormick, Senior Advisor
j. Howard Manuel, Deputy Senior Advisor
k. Jane Che, Senior Advisor
l. John Figueroa, Senior Advisor
m. Karen Brazell, Senior Advisor
n. Michael Stoddard, Senior Advisor
o. Todd Hunter, Senior Advisor
External Entities:
i. Anyone communicating as or on behalf of a Member or Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, including, but not limited to, anyone communicating by using an email address that contains 'house.gov'
ii. Anyone communicating as or on behalf of a Senator or Committee of the U.S. Senate, including, but not limited to, anyone communicating by using an email address that contains 'senate.gov.'"

News Media Category and Fee Waiver Grant
We placed you in the news media category and grant your fee waiver request for this FOIA request only. OSVA reserves the right to charge fees for future FOIA requests.

4/14/26 & 5/7/26 OI&T Microsoft 365 Searches
On April 14, 2026, we requested that OI&T conduct the below searches.

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Searches – April 14, 2026
By: VA's Office of Information & Technology (OI&T)
Information System: Microsoft 365
Timeframe: 9/1/25 to 10/6/25
Custodians: Douglas Collins, Paul Lawrence, Curt Cashour, Jen Burch, Joshua Quill, Shana Love-Holmon, Lavin Gartland, Christopher Syrek, Cortney McCormick, Howard Manuel, John Figueroa, Karen Brazell, Michael Stoddard, Todd Hunter.
Search terms: to house.gov or senate.gov
Note: Jane Che left the VA on 1/20/25.

On May 7, 2026, OI&T submitted responsive records. These searches constitutes reasonable searches.

Initial Agency Decision
OSVA releases one hundred thirty-five pages, Bates-numbered 1-135, with some pages redacted with FOIA Exemptions 3, 5, and 6. When records are released, FOIA allows federal agencies to withhold information subject to any of the nine exemptions listed in the statute.

5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(3) exempts from disclosure information "specifically exempted from disclosure by statute." 38 U.S.C. § 5701(a) exempts from disclosure "All files, records, reports, and other papers and documents pertaining to any claim under any of the laws administered by the Secretary and the names and addresses of present or former members of the Armed Forces, and their dependents, in the possession of the Department." Information redacted by FOIA Exemption 3 includes medical, disability, and education claims of veterans, including any full or partial denials, reasons for those full or partial denials, medical diagnoses, treatments, symptoms, medication, alleged disabilities, alleged causes of those disabilities, benefits paid, education claims processing, and so on.

Exemption 5 allows agencies to withhold "inter-agency or intra-agency memorandums or letters which would not be available by law to a party other than an agency in litigation with the agency." 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(5). Under Exemption 5, an agency may withhold from a FOIA requester any "documents normally privileged in the civil discovery context." *NLRB v. Sears Roebuck & Co.*, 421 U.S. 132, 149 (1975). In other words, Exemption 5 incorporates the privileges available to Government agencies in civil litigation. *United States Fish & Wildlife Serv. v. Sierra Club*, *Inc.*, 141 S. Ct. 777, 785 (2021). The deliberative process privilege shields from disclosure "documents reflecting advisory opinions, recommendations and deliberations comprising part of a process by which governmental decisions and policies are formulated," *NLRB v. Sears, Roebuck & Co.*, 421 U.S. at 150. A document is "predecisional" if it is created before the agency's final decision on a matter, and "deliberative" if it is prepared to help the agency formulate its position. *See Id*. at 150–152. I am withholding a minimal amount of information under Exemption 5 limited to preliminary discussions responding to or relating to the ACCESS Act, taskers, communications with Congress in its oversight and legislative roles, and possible future goals and brainstorming/analysis being shared by agency personnel. The foreseeable harm of a release of information protected by Exemption 5 in this interim release is that of public confusion counterproductive to VA's attempt to be clear in its messaging caused when suggested approaches and projected future goals which may be interpreted as likely to take place in fact never come to fruition.

The presidential communications privilege protects agency communications to or from the President or his advisers. *Loving v. DOD*, 550 F.3d 32, 37-38 (D.C. Cir. 2008) (Exemption 5

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"incorporates" Presidential Communications Privilege, which protects "'communications directly involving and documents actually viewed by the President,' as well as documents 'solicited and received' by the President or his 'immediate White House advisers'" (internal citations omitted)); *Berman v. CIA*, 378 F. Supp. 2d 1209, 1219-20 (E.D. Cal. 2005) (same), *aff'd on other grounds*, 501 F.3d 1136 (9th Cir. 2007); *Judicial Watch, Inc. v. DOJ*, 365 F.3d 1108, 1110 n.1 (D.C. Cir. 2004) ("embrac[ing] the definitional analysis set forth" in *In re* Sealed Case, 121 F.3d 729, 749-50, 752 (D.C. Cir. 1997), protecting documents covered by Presidential Communications Privilege); *Amnesty Int'l USA v. CIA*, 728 F. Supp. 2d 479, 522 (S.D.N.Y. 2010) ("all twenty documents reflect or memorialize communications between senior presidential advisers and other United States government officials and are therefore properly withheld").

VA is entitled to redact communications with Congress to assist agency decisionmaking as inter-agency records where these communications are "part and parcel of the agency's deliberative process." *Dow Jones v. DOJ*, 917 F.2d 571, 574-75 (D.C. Cir. 1990); see *also Ryan v. DOJ*, 617 F.2d 781, 790 (D.C. Cir. 1980) (holding that communications from Congress to agency regarding judicial nominations are "intra-agency" where "record is submitted by outside consultants as part of the deliberative process" and is solicited by agency*); Am. Oversight v. U.S. Dep't of the Treasury*, 474 F. Supp. 3d 251, 264 (D.D.C. 2020) (holding that records are "intra-agency" where Treasury communicated with Congress regarding development of tax reform legislation and sufficiently demonstrated that communications with Congress were relied on akin to how agency would rely on analysis and recommendation of outside consultant).

Exemption 6 allows agencies to withhold information in “personnel and medical files and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy.” 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(6). The term “similar files” in Exemption 6 is meant to “have a broad, rather than a narrow, meaning.” *U.S. Dep't of State v. Washington Post Co.*, 456 U.S. 595, 600 (1982). This exemption is not intended to apply “to a narrow class of files” containing only a discrete kind of personal information. Rather, the exemption was intended to cover detailed Government records on an individual which can be identified as applying to that individual.” *Id*. at 602. In *United States Department of Justice v. Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press*, 489 U.S. 749 (1989), the Supreme Court provided the following step-by-step analysis to determine when Exemption 6 applies: (1) determine whether a personal privacy interest is involved; (2) determine whether disclosure would serve the public interest; and (3) balance the personal privacy interest against the public interest. Whether an invasion of privacy is *warranted* cannot turn on the purposes for which the request for information is made*.” Reporters Comm*, 489 U.S. at 771. “[T]he only relevant ‘public interest in disclosure’ to be weighed in this balance is the extent to which disclosure would serve the ‘core purpose of the FOIA,’ which is ‘contribut[ing] significantly to public understanding of the *operations or activities of the government*.’” *Department of Defense v. FLRA*, 510 U.S. 487, 495 (1994) (second alteration in original) (quoting *Reporters Comm. for Freedom of Press*, 489 U.S. at 775.) Courts have recognized a substantial privacy interest in avoiding “unwanted contact following a FOIA disclosure.” *ACLU v. DOJ*, 655 F.3d 1, 11 (D.C. Cir. 2011) (collecting cases); *see FLRA*, 510 U.S. 487 at 502. (upholding agency's refusal to disclose employees’ home addresses).

The information I am withholding under Exemption 6 consists of names, initials, job titles, email addresses, phone numbers, direct contact information, conference links and codes, and VA claims details of: federal employees, private citizens, or veterans. The lower-level federal employees non-federal workers, private citizens, or veterans whose information is at issue have a substantial privacy interest in their personal information and in their right to be free from being

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identified and targeted by the public for either questioning or insults. In weighing the privacy interests of the lower-level employees mentioned in the documents, versus the public interest in having these people's direct contact information, I find that none of this information would help the public to understand VA operations. On the other hand, it is foreseeable that a release of this information would lead the public to contact these people directly either individually or as a group to interrupt their official work duties by harassing them. This said, the names of higher-level employees are being released.

FOIA Mediation

Under the provisions of the FOIA Improvement Act of 2016, the following contact information is provided to assist FOIA requesters in resolving disputes:

VA Central Office FOIA Public Liaison:
Email Address: vacofoiaservice@va.gov
Office of Government Information Services (OGIS)
Email Address: ogis@nara.gov
Mailing address:
National Archives and Records Administration
8601 Adelphi Road
College Park, MD 20740-6001

FOIA Appeal

This concludes OSVA's Initial Agency Decision to request **26-16843-F**. Please be advised that should you desire to do so, you may appeal the determination made in this response to:
ogcfoiaappeals@va.gov
Office of General Counsel (024)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

If you should choose to file an appeal, please include a copy of this letter with your written appeal and clearly indicate the basis for your disagreement with the determination set forth in this response. Please be advised that in accordance with VA's implementing FOIA regulations at 38 C.F.R. § 1.559, your appeal must be postmarked no later than ninety (90) days of the date of this letter.

Sincerely,

Richard Ha, JD, CIPP/G
OSVA FOIA Officer

Enclosure: 135 pages, Bates-numbered 1-135

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From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Tue, 2 Sep 2025 21:09:12 +0000
To: (b)(6) (Rick Scott); (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Army Strong of Tallahassee

(b)(6)

Good afternoon. So sorry for the late response. I have a POC for you to connect with Mr. (b)(6) I am very appreciative of you reaching out and appreciative our collaborative partnership.

I have a POC for you to connect with Mr. (b)(6) I have placed (b)(6) an Air Force Veteran, and currently serves as a Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs. He is the utmost professional and will be able to assist.

(b)(6)

Thank you for your time and assistance with the below request. (b)(6) serves on Sen Scotts staff and can connect you with Mr. (b)(6)

Thank you both for all that you do.

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6)
Mobile (b)(6)
Email: (b)(6)@va.gov

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From: (b)(6) (Rick Scott) <(b)(6)@rickscott.senate.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 29, 2025 11:19 AM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Army Strong of Tallahassee

Hi Mike – I hope you have been well!

(b)(6) a constituent and (b)(6) of Army Strong of Tallahassee, is looking for a few contacts within the VA. (b)(6) organization has raised funds to build two memorials in Tallahassee National Cemetery and he needs approvals for both.

Please let me know if you have contacts I can refer him to regarding these approvals. I would greatly appreciate it!

Thanks so much!

(b)(6)
Office of U.S. Senator Rick Scott
(b)(6) (b)(6)
(b)(6)@RickScott.Senate.Gov

From: (b)(6)@comcast.net>
Sent: Wednesday, August 27, 2025 4:11 PM
To: (b)(6) (Rick Scott) <(b)(6)@rickscott.senate.gov>
Subject: Army Strong of Tallahassee

(b)(6) it was great to meet you this afternoon. (b)(6) (b)(6) of the Tallahassee National Cemetery has notified me that our 2 proposals U.S. Army Memorial Monument and the Battlefield Cross Memorial Monument were sent to the Atlanta VA office for

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approval. The U.S. Army Memorial will only need to be approved by the Atlanta's VA office. Once the Army Memorial is approved then Army Strong of Tallahassee will be able to order the materials for that memorial. The Battlefield Cross Memorial will also need to be approved at the Atlanta's VA office, but it will need to be forward to the Under Secretary of the National Cemeteries for his approval. The cost of the Battlefield Cross is more than the U.S. Army Memorial and that's why it has to go to Washington D.C. for the approval.

Please pass onto me the name and phone number of the District Executive Director based at the Atlanta's VA office. His approval is very important for Army Strong of Tallahassee to move forward for the 2 Memorials.

If you will also pass onto me the Under Secretary Sam Brown's of National Cemeteries, phone number.

Thank you very much for your help and Sen. Scott's,

(b)(6) (b)(6) of

Army Strong of Tallahassee

(b)(6) (b)(6)

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From: Syrek, Christopher D.
Sent: Tue, 2 Sep 2025 21:26:25 +0000
To: (b)(6) Risch); Bergin, Donald J.; Lauder, Jon M.
Cc: (Risch); Owens, Darrell R.
Subject: Re: Formal Invitation – Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Idaho Replacement Boise Veterans Home

Thanks (b)(6)

Appreciate you thinking of us. I will check schedule and report back.

Chris

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From: (b)(6) (Risch (b)(6) Risch.senate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 2, 2025 5:04:31 PM
To: Syrek, Christopher D. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) Risch) (b)(6) @Risch.senate.gov>; Owens, Darrell R. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Formal Invitation – Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Idaho Replacement Boise Veterans Home

Hey Chris,

I wanted to be sure this invitation for Secretary Collins to attend the Boise Veterans Home groundbreaking on October 3 made it across your desk. Senator Risch plans to attend and would like to join in recognizing Secretary Collins' leadership in delivering for Idaho's veterans, especially in moving this project forward after nearly two years of bureaucratic delays.

Happy to answer any questions and/or connect you with the Idaho Divisions of Veterans Services if it would be helpful!

Best,
(b)(6)

(b)(6)
U.S. Senator Jim Risch (R-Idaho)
(b)(6) (b)(6) | risch.senate.gov
Sign up for Senator Risch's newsletter.

From: (b)(6) @veterans.idaho.gov>
Sent: Friday, August 22, 2025 4:20 PM
To: (b)(6) @va.gov

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Cc: (b)(6) @veterans.idaho.gov>; Vulaj, Marie A. (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) (b)(6) (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) @va.gov> (b)(6) (Risch) (b)(6) @Risch.senate.gov>; (b)(6) @gov.idaho.gov> (b)(6) (Boise) (b)(6) @va.gov>

Subject: Formal Invitation – Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Idaho Replacement Boise Veterans Home

Dear Secretary Collins,

Thank you again for taking the time to meet with me this past June in my role as Executive Director of the National Association of State Veterans Homes (NASVH). It was a privilege to visit with you and discuss issues of importance to veterans' care in our State Veterans Homes nationwide.

On behalf of Director Mark Tschampl and the Idaho Division of Veterans Services, I am pleased to share the attached formal letter of invitation for you to attend and serve as a Keynote Speaker at the Groundbreaking Ceremony for the replacement Boise Veterans Home on Friday, October 3, 2025, at 11:00 a.m.

This groundbreaking represents an important milestone for Idaho's veterans and their families. The replacement home will provide an improved facility that honors the service and sacrifice of our veterans while equipping us to meet their needs well into the future.

Additionally, should your schedule allow travel to Idaho for this event, and if you are also visiting Washington State during the same trip, Director Tschampl and I would be honored to host you for a tour of our newest State Veterans Home located in Post Falls, Idaho. This home, which became VA recognized in 2023, is located just 30 minutes outside Spokane, Washington, and stands as a model of the modern, high-quality care environment we are working to provide across our great state.

Thank you for your leadership and for the steadfast support you provide to Idaho's veterans and their families. We would be truly honored to have you join us for this milestone event.

Respectfully,

(b)(6)
(b)(6) Idaho Division of Veterans Services
(b)(6) @veterans.idaho.gov
"Caring for America's Heroes"

PHONE: (b)(6) (b)(6)
FAX:
URL: https://veterans.idaho.gov

351 N. Collins Road
Boise, ID 83702

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From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Wed, 3 Sep 2025 22:17:42 +0000
To: (b)(6) Veterans Affairs)
Subject: Re: (b)(6) case

Perfect. Mine is (b)(6) (b)(6) I will reach out at 11

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From: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) (b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 3, 2025 6:03:16 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: (b)(6) case

Whichever is easiest. My personal cell is (b)(6) (b)(6)

From: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 3, 2025 6:01 PM
To: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) (b)(6) vetaff.senate.gov>
Subject: Re (b)(6) case

(b)(6)

Sounds good. Look forward to it.

Do you want to call me or for me to call you?

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From: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) <(b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 3, 2025 5:28:23 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: (b)(6) case

Ok I'll put it on the calendar. Thanks and have a great night!

We also just need to catch up in general at some point. I could come your way.

From: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 3, 2025 5:28 PM
To: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) <(b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov>
Subject: Re (b)(6) case

(b)(6)

Thank you. 11 am does work for me.

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From: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) (b)(6) vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 3, 2025 5:25:48 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: (b)(6) case

Sure – Do you have time at 11 tomorrow? Or when works for you?

From: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 3, 2025 4:58 PM
To: (b)(6) Veterans Affairs) <(b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: (b)(6) case

Hi (b)(6)

I hope you are well. Can we find a time to talk tomorrow?

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile:
Email: (b)(6) va.gov

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From: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) <(b)(6) vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 3, 2025 12:42 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: (b)(6) case
Importance: High

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Hi Mike –

I hope you're doing well and had a nice August. I wanted to follow-up on this case, as it is an important one for us. Were you and Dr. Lawrence able to talk on this one or do you have any update? Also we probably should schedule another sit down informal catch-up chat as well.

Thanks,

(b)(6)

From: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 21, 2025 5:46 PM
To: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) <(b)(6)vetaff.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: (b)(6) case

(b)(6)

Good afternoon. I acknowledge receipt. And you are never a bother. Happy to see how I can assist. Dr Lawrence and I will discuss this on our trip to Ohio tomorrow. I will circle back when I have an update.

Thank you for trusting me with this.

Respectfully,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6)
Mobile (b)(6)
Email: (b)(6)@va.gov

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From: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) (b)(6) vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Monday, July 21, 2025 4:40 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: (b)(6) case
Importance: High

Hi Mike –

Hope you had a nice weekend. I shot a note over to Dr. Lawrence about this case and told him I'd send your way to hopefully get y'all's folks on it. (b)(6) and team usually works with our health team on caregiver advocacy but (b)(6) looped me in on Friday to talk about this particular VBA issue that (b)(6) and her husband are facing with VBA. I wouldn't usually bother y'all with casework like this, but the amount of back and forth they've had for his (b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

(b)(6)

Could you all please have your folks look at this case and get some answers and also look at what went wrong in this case? Happy to hop on a call as well.

Thank you, in advance!

(b)(6)

(b)(6)
Chairman Jerry Moran (R-KS)
Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs

From: (b)(6) @gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 18, 2025 1:57 PM
To: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) <(b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) golfoundation.org>
Subject: (b)(6) case

Hi (b)(6)

I'm going to be cutting and pasting from a few emails over the years, I believe you may have been copied on the the last few. I apologize in advance for not shortening this into points or summarizing, but I wanted to get you the information quickly so that you could move forward. The following reflects large events and the help we've had from this team.

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Veteran is (b)(6)
Case number is (b)(6)
Birthdate is (b)(6)

Here's was our initial introduction with (b)(6)

VBA

Our case has been an absolute nightmare for years, but the recent (b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

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(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

On November 8, 2023, there was this update:

(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

We received a decision in the (b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C.

June 2024:

(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

July 9, 2024:

(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

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(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

August 6, 2024:

(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

August 9, 2024:

(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

September , 2024 (you may have been copied in at this point):

(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

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(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

So good news — (b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

News since that date:

(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

I spoke with VEO and Dr Davis in May of this year who offered to help in whatever capacity she could. I received an email from her team on July 9, 2025 that they were having their client relations team look at the case.

Thank you again for your patience and perseverance to read through this chain of events and emails. I appreciate yours and (b)(6) s help. I, like you, believe that this should not be this complex nor this hard.

Please let me know if there is anything else you need.

My best,

(b)(6)

(b)(6) (b)(6)

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From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Tue, 16 Sep 2025 21:32:58 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: CHAMPVA Issues

Good afternoon,

Thank you for bringing this to my attention and for your advocacy. I have this for action and will look into it. I will circle back once I have an update.

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile
Email: (b)(6) @va.gov

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From: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 16, 2025 4:56 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CHAMPVA Issues

Good Afternoon,

I am reaching out on behalf of Congressman Huizenga's office regarding a systemic issue raised by the Berrien County Veteran Service Office related to challenges they are encountering with submitting applications to CHAMPVA. Enclosed, you will find the letter we received from Ms. (b)(6) (b)(6) of the Berrien County Veteran Service Office.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

While we have offered assistance in addressing individual cases related to CHAMPVA, I wanted to bring this matter to your attention in the hope of preventing further complications.

During our meeting in Battle Creek, MI this past August, you mentioned ongoing efforts to resolve issues with CHAMPVA. Would you be able to provide us with an update on the progress of these efforts, including a timeline for when the issues might be addressed?

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

CONGRESSMAN
BillHuizenga
Michigan's 4th District

(b)(6)
Representative Bill Huizenga (MI-04)
170 College Ave., Suite 160 | Holland, MI 49423
(b)(6) (b)(6) huizenga.house.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Wed, 17 Sep 2025 13:43:52 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: CHAMPVA Issues

Good morning, I have an update on this concern.

Here is the response I received from our team here at the VA.

Received. Thank you.
We will follow up with both the VSO and the Congressman's office. FYSA, CHAMPVA does now have online application capabilities and we will share that with the VSO. We will ask for veteran(s) contact information so that we can offer service recovery and expedite review of those applications. We will prepare a written response as well to Congressman's office and clear that response through process to include OCLA.
Much appreciated.
(b)(6)

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile:
Email: (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 16, 2025 4:56 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] CHAMPVA Issues

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Good Afternoon,

I am reaching out on behalf of Congressman Huizenga's office regarding a systemic issue raised by the Berrien County Veteran Service Office related to challenges they are encountering with submitting applications to CHAMPVA. Enclosed, you will find the letter we received from Ms. (b)(6) of the Berrien County Veteran Service Office.

While we have offered assistance in addressing individual cases related to CHAMPVA, I wanted to bring this matter to your attention in the hope of preventing further complications.

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Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

CONGRESSMAN
BillHuizenga
Michigan's 4th District

(b)(6)
Representative Bill Huizenga (MI-04)
170 College Ave., Suite 160 | Holland, MI 49423
(b)(6) (b)(6) huizenga.house.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Syrek, Christopher D.
Sent: Thu, 18 Sep 2025 21:41:24 +0000
To: Bergin, Donald J (b)(6) . EOP/WHO; Topping, Richard F.; Runyan, Danielle A. (OGC); (b)(6) EOP/OMB; (b)(6) EOP/OMB; (b)(6) EOP/WHO; (b)(6) EOP/WHO; (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs); (b)(6) (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) eterans Affairs)
Cc: (b)(6) EOP/WHO
Subject: RE: ACCESS Meeting Due Outs

Thanks for providing recap Don.

While I understand this might not (b)(5)
(b)(5)

I appreciate everyone coming together today.

Christopher D. Syrek
Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
Department of Veterans Affairs
Mobile: (b)(6) b)(6)

Pre-Decisional

From: Bergin, Donald J. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 18, 2025 2:59 PM
To: (b)(6) EOP/WHO <(b)(6) @who.eop.gov>; Syrek, Christopher D. (b)(6) @va.gov>; Topping, Richard F. (b)(6) @va.gov>; Runyan, Danielle A. (OGC) <(b)(6) va.gov> (b)(6) M. EOP/OMB (b)(6) @omb.eop.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/OMB <(b)(6) @omb.eop.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/WHO <(b)(6) @who.eop.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/WHO <(b)(6) @who.eop.gov>; (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) (b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov> (b)(6) @mail.house.gov> (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) (b)(6) vetaff.senate.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) EOP/WHO (b)(6) @who.eop.gov>
Subject: ACCESS Meeting Due Outs

All,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Thank you for finally getting together for a productive meeting on the ACCESS Act. I appreciate everyone's collaboration in working toward a bill that will improve veterans' access to community care and advance the President's priority veteran policy.

Attached below is a summary of the due outs from our discussion. Please take a moment to review and (b)(5)

(b)(5)

Let's keep pushing forward to get this bill done as soon as possible.

Thank you again for your continued support and partnership.

Best,
Don

Section 101 – Eligibility and Access Standards
HVAC/SVAC

- (b)(5)
-
-

OMB

- (b)(5)

Section 103 – Eligibility Criteria
VA

- (b)(5)

Section 302 – VA Authority and Budgeting
VA

- (b)(5)
-

OMB

-

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Enhanced Use Leases (EUL)

General

- (b)(5)

HVAC

- (b)(5)
-

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Cashour, Curtis E.
Sent: Tue, 30 Sep 2025 00:25:53 +0000
To: (b)(6) (Moran)
Subject: Re: Question on VA Whole Health Copayments

Thank you, (b)(6)

Get Outlook for iOS
From: (b)(6) (Moran) <(b)(6)@moran.senate.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2025 6:54 PM
To: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Question on VA Whole Health Copayments

Hi Curt – a WH Politico reporter reached out trying to confirm that Karen Brazell and John Bartrum's nominations are being withdrawn. I have not responded but wanted to let you know.

From: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2025 3:47 PM
To: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) <(b)(6)vetaff.senate.gov>; Kasperowicz, Peter I. (b)(6)@va.gov>; Stapleton, John O. <J(b)(6)va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) (Moran) <(b)(6)moran.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Question on VA Whole Health Copayments

Will look into this and be in touch. Thanks.

Pre-decisional

From (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) (b)(6)@vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2025 3:27 PM
To: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6)@va.gov>; (b)(6)@va.gov; Porter, Macaulay V. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) (Moran) <(b)(6)moran.senate.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Question on VA Whole Health Copayments

Hi all,

A reporter reached out after hearing from Kansas veterans who said they were informed they would need to start paying a copay to attend certain fitness classes and programs at their local VA beginning October 1, 2025. They were unsure whether exemptions based on disability rating or income level would apply to these copayments.

If you could provide any clarity or information on these copayments, that would be greatly appreciated. Thanks!

Best,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

(b)(6)

(b)(6)
Chairman Jerry Moran (R-KS)
Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs
418 Russell Senate Office Building
(b)(6) (b)(6) www.veterans.senate.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Cashour, Curtis E.
Sent: Tue, 30 Sep 2025 14:24:21 +0000
To: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs); Kasperowicz, Peter I.; Stapleton, John O.
Cc: Moran); Bergin, Donald J.
Subject: RE: Question on VA Whole Health Copayments

Good morning, folks. Adding Don from our OCLA team.

Please see below. Thanks.

###
Although federal law requires VA to charge certain Veterans a copayment for whole health wellbeing services such as yoga and meditation, the department over the years has not always done so consistently.

Therefore, starting Oct. 1, 2025, VA will resume following federal law by enforcing copayment requirements for whole health wellbeing services.

Veterans with questions about this change should contact their local VA medical center's patient advocate or finance representative.
###

Pre-decisional

From: Cashour, Curtis E.
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2025 3:47 PM
To: (b)(6) Veterans Affairs) <(b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov>; Kasperowicz, Peter I. <(b)(6) @va.gov>; Stapleton, John O (b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) (Moran) <(b)(6) @moran.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Question on VA Whole Health Copayments

Will look into this and be in touch. Thanks.

Pre-decisional

From: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) (b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Monday, September 29, 2025 3:27 PM
To: Cashour, Curtis E. (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) @va.gov; Porter, Macaulay V. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) (Moran) (b)(6) @moran.senate.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Question on VA Whole Health Copayments

Hi all,

A reporter reached out after hearing from Kansas veterans who said they were informed they would need to start paying a copay to attend certain fitness classes and programs at their local VA beginning October

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

1, 2025. They were unsure whether exemptions based on disability rating or income level would apply to these copayments.

If you could provide any clarity or information on these copayments, that would be greatly appreciated. Thanks!

Best,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)
Chairman Jerry Moran (R-KS)
Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs
418 Russell Senate Office Building
(b)(6) (b)(6) www.veterans.senate.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Syrek, Christopher D.
Sent: Wed, 8 Oct 2025 18:49:01 +0000
To: (b)(6) Bergin, Donald J.
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: ***MEDIA ADVISORY***TODAY AT 3:30 PM: BLUMENTHAL TO ASK FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT FOR PASSAGE OF STALLED BIPARTISAN MAJOR RICHARD STAR ACT

Thanks

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 8, 2025 2:27 PM
To: Bergin, Donald J. (b)(6) @va.gov>; Syrek, Christopher D (b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fw: ***MEDIA ADVISORY***TODAY AT 3:30 PM: BLUMENTHAL TO ASK FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT FOR PASSAGE OF STALLED BIPARTISAN MAJOR RICHARD STAR ACT

FYI, we were told they had also had thought about a live UC for the extenders bill but I guess they wanted to tee up (b)(6)

(b)(6)
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs
Chairman Mike Bost (IL-12)
(C) (b)(6) (b)(6) | veterans.house.gov

From: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) < (b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, October 8, 2025 2:22:02 PM
To: (b)(6) Veterans Affairs) < (b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov>
Subject: ***MEDIA ADVISORY***TODAY AT 3:30 PM: BLUMENTHAL TO ASK FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT FOR PASSAGE OF STALLED BIPARTISAN MAJOR RICHARD STAR ACT

RICHARD BLUMENTHAL
UNITED STATES SENATOR *for* CONNECTICUT

For Planning Purposes
Contact: Liz Timmons
(202) 731-9241
October 8, 2025

******MEDIA ADVISORY******

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

TODAY AT 3:30 PM: BLUMENTHAL TO ASK FOR UNANIMOUS CONSENT FOR PASSAGE OF STALLED BIPARTISAN *MAJOR RICHARD STAR ACT*

Despite its overwhelming bipartisan support, critical veterans' bill has failed to receive meaningful legislative action from Republican leadership

[WASHINGTON, D.C.] – **TODAY, Wednesday, October 8th, 2025 at approximately 3:30 PM**, U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT), Ranking Member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, will ask for unanimous consent to pass the *Major Richard Star Act*—bipartisan legislation to deliver more than 50,000 combat-injured veterans their full military benefits. Despite its overwhelming bipartisan support and importance for veterans and their families across the nation, the legislation has failed year after year to receive meaningful legislative action because of behind-closed-doors efforts by Republican leadership to block consideration of the bill.

Currently, only veterans with disability ratings above 50 percent and more than 20 years of service are eligible to receive the full amount of their Department of Defense (DOD) retirement and Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) disability payments—leaving behind more than 50,000 combat-injured military retirees. The *Major Richard Star Act* will fix this unjust policy for medical retirees with a combat-related disability—providing them their full VA disability and DOD retirement payments.

This legislation has overwhelming support from the majority of both chambers of Congress, with 76 bipartisan cosponsors the Senate and 304 bipartisan cosponsors in the House.

This bipartisan legislation is named in honor of Major Richard A. Star, a decorated war veteran who was forced to medically retire due to his combat-related injuries. Major Star fought to fix this injustice facing combat-injured veterans until he lost his battle with cancer in 2021.

WHO: U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)

WHEN: Wednesday, October 8th at 3:30 PM

WHERE: Senate Floor

A live stream of the remarks will be available HERE.

-30-

Follow Senator Blumenthal online:

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Syrek, Christopher D.
Sent: Thu, 9 Oct 2025 22:48:07 +0000
To: (b)(6) Bergin, Donald J.; Lauder, Jon M.
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: Re: New Dem Attack

Thanks.

Team is lreveiwing.

Get Outlook for iOS

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Thursday, October 9, 2025 5:35:25 PM
To: Syrek, Christopher D. (b)(6) @va.gov>; Bergin, Donald J. (b)(6) va.gov>; Lauder, Jon M. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New Dem Attack

Here is the newest dem attack probably based off of the survey I sent you all earlier from NAVPA. I think it would be good to get (b)(5)

(b)(5)

https://democrats-veterans.house.gov/news/press-releases/ranking-members-takano-and-blumenthal-denounce-va-decision-to-halt-vital-education-and-housing-benefits-during-the-government-shutdown

(b)(6)
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs
Chairman Mike Bost (IL-12)
(C) (b)(6) (b)(6) | veterans.house.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Syrek, Christopher D.
Sent: Tue, 14 Oct 2025 13:38:45 +0000
To: (b)(6) EOP/WHO; (b)(6) EOP/WHO; (b)(6) EOP/WHO; Bergin, Donald J.; Topping, Richard F.; (b)(6) EOP/OMB; (b)(6) @who.eop.gov; (b)(6) EOP/WHO; (b)(6) EOP/WHO
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: INFO/update re: HVAC Chairman Bost continued offensive against Dems shutdown

Thanks (b)(6)

From: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2025 3:59 PM
To: (b)(6) EOP/WHO <(b)(6) @who.eop.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/WHO <(b)(6) @who.eop.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/WHO; (b)(6) @who.eop.gov>; Syrek, Christopher D (b)(6) @va.gov>; Bergin, Donald J. <(b)(6) @va.gov>; Topping, Richard F. (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/OMB (b)(6) @omb.eop.gov>; (b)(6) @who.eop.gov (b)(6) EOP/WHO who.eop.gov>; (b)(6) OP/WHO (b)(6) @who.eop.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] INFO/update re: HVAC Chairman Bost continued offensive against Dems shutdown

Hey everyone,

(b)(6) and I hope you are enjoying the three-day weekend.

For your situational awareness, please see Chairman Bost's continued (b)(5) (b)(5)

1. **Star and Stripes article**: *Democratic lawmakers accuse VA Secretary Collins of 'weaponizing' the shutdown and ignoring requests to assist constituents*:

"*Rep. Mike Bost, R-Ill., who is chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, said he believes Collins and other VA leaders are "trying to do everything they possibly can with the money that we actually provided for them through advance [appropriations] for our veterans.*

But Bost also blamed Democrats for the shutdown that began Oct. 1 over partisan differences about federal spending levels, foreign aid rescissions and health insurance subsidies. "The Democrat shutdown has caused pain and uncertainty for veterans, service members and their families across the country. Ranking Member Takano and Ranking Member Blumenthal are correct that VA cannot deliver certain services to veterans due to the Democrat shutdown," Bost said Friday. "As chairman, I am concerned about this as well, which is exactly why their party should stop holding the vitally important VA services veterans and their families rely on hostage and vote to reopen the government. Enough is enough — it's time for Democrats to stop playing politics with the American people's lives." (source: https://www.stripes.com/veterans/2025-10-10/democratic-lawmakers-va-secretary-shutdown-19382406.html)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

2. House leadership press conference on October 9:

"As a Marine veteran, Chairman Bost understands what servicemembers are going through – waiting for that paycheck to get food on the table for their spouses and families. The fact that Democrats don't understand the real-world consequences of their shutdown games is despicable."

Conference video: https://x.com/HouseVetAffairs/status/1976663039199080679

Enjoy the rest of your day.

(b)(6)
(b)(6)
House Veterans Affairs Committee
(b)(6)
Chairman Mike Bost (IL-12)
(b)(6) (b)(6) @mail.house.gov
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' AFFAIRS



AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Cashour, Curtis E.
Sent: Mon, 27 Oct 2025 19:44:29 +0000
To: (b)(6) EOP/WHO (b)(6) mail.house.gov
Subject: RE: Connecting Johnson and VA

Thanks (b)(6)

(b)(6) – let me know what you have in mind. My # is (b)(6) (b)(6)

Pre-decisional

From (b)(6) EOP/WHO (b)(6) @who.eop.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2025 2:50 PM
To: Cashour, Curtis E. (b)(6) @va.gov> (b)(6) mail.house.gov
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Connecting Johnson and VA

Hi all,

Connecting Speaker Johnson's office with Curt with the VA. I believe there is interest in getting the Sec. to the Speaker's press conference this week. thank you!

(b)(6)

The White House
(b)(6) (b)(6)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Syrek, Christopher D.
Sent: Tue, 28 Oct 2025 22:05:07 +0000
To: (b)(6) Bergin, Donald J.; Devlin, Margarita VBAVACO
Subject: Re: Fair Access to Co-Ops for Veterans Act

(b)(6),

Great to hear from you, hope all is well.

+ Don Bergin our AS for Leg. Affairs and Margarita Devlin who can likely help discuss this.

Chris

Get Outlook for iOS
From: (b)(6)@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 10:30:31 AM
To: Syrek, Christopher D. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Fair Access to Co-Ops for Veterans Act

Hey! Flagging the below email. It is about access to co-ops for veterans.

Could someone from your team do a meeting with me to discuss?

--
(b)(6)
Congresswoman Nicole Malliotakis (NY-11)
1124 Longworth House Office Building | Washington D.C. 20515
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6) | Cell: (b)(6) (6)

From: Hendon, James (DVS) (b)(6)veterans.nyc.gov>
Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2025 at 2:23 PM
To: (b)(6) (b)(6)@mail.house.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) (b)(DVS) (b)(6)@veterans.nyc.gov>
Subject: Fair Access to Co-Ops for Veterans Act

(b)(6)

This is James Hendon, Commissioner of the NYC Department of Veterans' Services.

Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to meet yesterday, my friend.

As a bookend to our discussion, the below bullets summarize the co-op / VA Home Loan Program situation:

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

- During the 109th Congress, co-ops (share loans) were added to the VA Home Loan Program as part of the Veterans Benefits, Health Care, and Technology Act of 2006.
    - Note Title V, Section 501 of S.3421's text.
- After the law was passed, a five-year sunset clause was placed in the US Code corresponding to the law.
    - Note Paragraph A, Subparagraph 12 of the associated US Code.
- The VA did not advertise that co-ops were part of the VA Home Loan Program anywhere. As a result, no Veteran purchased a co-op utilizing the VA Home Loan Program during the years when the offering was available (from 2006 to 2011).
- In the intervening years, legislation was put forth to strike the sunset clause from the US Code (see H.R. 5923 of the 116th Congress). The legislation was not supported by the VA.
- During the 118th Congress, an updated version of the legislation was introduced with a 3.25% surfee. The surfee means that, along with paying a funding fee of 1.5% to 3.3% depending on the situation, Veterans who do not have a service-connected disability rating would need to pay an additional 3.25% to purchase a co-op using the VA Home Loan Program. NOTE: The VA Home Loan Program funding fee is waived for Service-Disabled Veterans.
- The VA testified that they would support the updated legislation from the 118th Congress if specific changes were made (see pages 3-5 of the VA's 2024 testimony). The Offices of Representatives Malliotakis and Meng made those changes (which appear in H.R. 1803). The VA then testified in 2025 that it would not support the legislation (see pages 9-11 of the VA's 2025 testimony).
    - Rep. Malliotakis and Meng's offices are currently working to address the VA's 2025 objections.

I respectfully ask for any help that you can provide to get us across the finish line — through all means available.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Feel free to contact us if there are any issues.

Thank you!

Warm Regards,

James
m: (b)(6) (b)(6)

James Hendon
Commissioner
NYC Department of Veterans' Services
1 Centre Street, Suite 2208
New York, NY 10007

(b)(6) veterans.nyc.gov
(b)(6) (b)(6)
Tell us how we're doing
www.nyc.gov/vets
@NYCVeterans
Sign up for our newsletter!

For meeting scheduling and event requests, please contact:

(b)(6)

(b)(6)
NYC Department of Veterans' Services

DVS General: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Direct: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Email: (b)(6) @veterans.nyc.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Cashour, Curtis E.
Sent: Tue, 11 Nov 2025 20:14:51 +0000
To: (b)(6) EOP WHO (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Connecting Johnson and VA

I don't have any yet. Will share them when I do. Thanks.

Get Outlook for iOS
From (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2025 3:13:11 PM
To: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) @va.gov>;(b)(6) EOP WHO (b)(6)
(b)(6) @who.eop.gov>(b)(6) @mail.house.gov>(b)(6)
(b)(6) @mail.house.gov>;(b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Connecting Johnson and VA

Hi there!

Checking in to see if there are any photos of the Speaker you're able to send our way. We would love to be able to include them in a video we have planned to go out later today.

Thanks!
(b)(6)

On Nov 10, 2025, at 4:27 PM (b)(6) @mail.house.gov> wrote:

Thank you! We'll be on the lookout for these photos tomorrow.

Best,
(b)(6)

<image001.png>

(b)(6)
Speaker of the House Mike Johnson (LA-04)

From: Cashour, Curtis E.(b)(6) @va.gov>
Date: Monday, November 10, 2025 at 4:17 PM
To:(b)(6) EOP/WHO (b)(6) @who.eop.gov>,(b)(6)
(b)(6) @mail.house.gov>,(b)(6) @mail.house.gov>,(b)(6)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

(b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: Connecting Johnson and VA

Thanks very much, (b)(6)

Pre-decisional

From: (b)(6) EOP/WHO (b)(6) who.eop.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 10, 2025 3:47 PM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) @va.gov>;
(b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Connecting Johnson and VA

Hi all, can also send along White House photos as they come in. thank you

---

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 10, 2025 3:36 PM
To: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/WHO
(b)(6) @who.eop.gov>; (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: Connecting Johnson and VA

Thanks Curtis

Adding our colleague (b)(6) here who will be POC on our end for receiving the photos

All the best

(b)(6)

From: Cashour, Curtis E. (b)(6) va.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 10, 2025 3:35 PM
To: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>;
(b)(6) EOP/WHO (b)(6) who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: Connecting Johnson and VA

Great. See answers below in red. Let me know if you have any other questions.

Thanks.

Curt Cashour
Assistant Secretary for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Department of Veterans Affairs
(b)(6) (b)(6)

Pre-decisional

From (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 10, 2025 3:22 PM
To: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/WHO <(b)(6) @who.eop.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Connecting Johnson and VA

Hey Curt and (b)(6)

Our team was grateful to learn that Speaker Johnson will now be joining Secretary Collins at the Arlington event tomorrow morning.

Thank you so much for the invitation. While our scheduling team has handled all the logistics, I have a couple comms specific questions I was hoping you all might have more details on.

Can you confirm that the Speaker does not have a speaking role? Confirmed. No speaking role.

Would it be possible for your team to share photos following the event for a release and social media? We will.

Thanks so much for including the Speaker. He's looking forward to it.

Best,

<image001.png>

(b)(6)
Speaker of the House Mike Johnson (LA-04)
(b)(6) (b)(6)

From: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Sunday, November 9, 2025 1:25 PM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) (b)(6) EOP/WHO (b)(6) @who.eop.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: Connecting Johnson and VA

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

We understand. Thank you, (b)(6)

Pre-decisional

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Sunday, November 9, 2025 1:23 PM
To: (b)(6) va.gov>; Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) (b)(6) EOP/WHO <(b)(6) @who.eop.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Connecting Johnson and VA

Hey Curt and (b)(6)

I just wanted to close the loop here. While we'd love to have Secretary Collins join Speaker Johnson for Veterans Day, we unfortunately will be unable to push the press conference back that late in the day.

Thank you for trying to accommodate this request. We look forward to future opportunities to collaborate with the Secretary.

Enjoy your Sunday,

<image001.png>

(b)(6)

Speaker of the House Mike Johnson (LA-04)

(b)(6) (b)(6)

From: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 7, 2025 1:03 PM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/WHO <(b)(6) @who.eop.gov>
Subject: Re: Connecting Johnson and VA

Thanks Curt.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

He currently won't be available until after 2:30pm

(b)(6)

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Cell: (b)(6) (b)(6)

Sent from my iPhone

From: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 7, 2025 10:17:57 AM
To: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) va.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/WHO <(b)(6) who.eop.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Connecting Johnson and VA

What time might he be available? I'm happy to check.

From: Cashour, Curtis E. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 7, 2025 11:04 AM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/WHO <(b)(6) who.eop.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: RE: Connecting Johnson and VA

Hi, (b)(6) He's hosting an event all morning prior to the ceremony, but it's possible he could make this work at some point in the afternoon Nov. 11. Would that be possible on your end?

Curt Cashour

Assistant Secretary for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs

Department of Veterans Affairs

(b)(6) (b)(6)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Pre-decisional

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Friday, November 7, 2025 10:50 AM
To: Cashour, Curtis E. (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/WHO (b)(6) @who.eop.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Connecting Johnson and VA

Hey Curtis,

Would a 9am start and a guarantee that Secretary Collins could be moving to Arlington by 9:20am help make this possible?

We'd really like to find a way to make it work. Thanks!

Best,

<image001.png>

(b)(6)

Speaker of the House Mike Johnson (LA-04)

(b)(6) (b)(6)

From: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 6, 2025 2:41 PM

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/WHO (b)(6) @who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: Connecting Johnson and VA

Thank you for the invite, (b)(6)

That timing won't work for the secretary, as he will be at the national Veterans Day Observance at Arlington National Cemetery at that time.

Let me know if you would like to try for a different day/time, and we'll be happy to look into it. Thanks.

Pre-decisional

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 6, 2025 2:31 PM
To: (b)(6) EOP/WHO (b)(6) @who.eop.gov>; Cashour, Curtis E. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Connecting Johnson and VA

Hi all,

We would love to invite Secretary Collins to join the Speaker on Tuesday on the House Steps for his 10am press conference with veteran members of the House GOP.

Please let me know if he might be available and I'll send over additional details. Thanks so much!

Best,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

<image001.png>

(b)(6)

Speaker of the House Mike Johnson (LA-04)

(b)(6) (b)(6)

From: (b)(6) EOP/WHO <(b)(6) @who.eop.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 3:31 PM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: RE: Connecting Johnson and VA

If there is still an appetite, this might be good to do ahead of veterans day. Assuming schedules align as well.

Thank you.

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 2:15 PM
To: (b)(6) EOP/WHO (b)(6) @who.eop.gov>; Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: RE: Connecting Johnson and VA

Thanks all. I'll be back in touch on when might work next week.

Best,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

<image001.png>

(b)(6)

Speaker of the House Mike Johnson (LA-04)

(b)(6) (b)(6)

From: (b)(6) EOP/WHO <(b)(6) @who.eop.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 2:08 PM
To: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: Connecting Johnson and VA

Assuming the schedules line up, this messaging will likely still be applicable on Monday/Tuesday.

From: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 1:22 PM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/WHO
(b)(6) @who.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: Connecting Johnson and VA

Hi, (b)(6) Sec. Collins is traveling and unavailable the rest of this week, but we would be happy to look into scheduling something for a different week. Just let us know. Thanks.

Curt

(b)(6) (b)(6)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Pre-decisional

From (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, October 28, 2025 12:55 PM
To: (b)(6) EOP/WHO (b)(6) @who.eop.gov>; Cashour, Curtis E. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Connecting Johnson and VA

Thanks so much, (b)(6)

Curtis— good to connect. We are very interested in having Secretary Collins join us this week.

Are there any days he is **not** available? Please forgive me as we are still finalizing things over here. I will keep you updated.

Talk soon,

<image001.png>

(b)(6)

Speaker of the House Mike Johnson (LA-04)

(b)(6) (b)(6)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From (b)(6) EOP/WHO <(b)(6) @who.eop.gov>
Sent: Monday, October 27, 2025 2:50 PM
To: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6)
<(b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: Connecting Johnson and VA

Hi all,

Connecting Speaker Johnson's office with Curt with the VA. I believe there is interest in getting the Sec. to the Speaker's press conference this week. thank you!

(b)(6)

The White House

(b)(6) (b)(6)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Cashour, Curtis E.
Sent: Tue, 11 Nov 2025 21:01:26 +0000
To: (b)(6) EOP WHO (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Connecting Johnson and VA
Attachments: GR5_2104.JPG, GR5_2163.JPG

Hi, (b)(6) Attached are the best ones we have of the speaker. You will need to crop in, but these should be hi-res enough for you to do so. Thank you.

Pre-decisional

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 11, 2025 3:13 PM
To: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) EOP WHO (b)(6)
(b)(6) @who.eop.gov>; (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) @mail.house.gov> (b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Connecting Johnson and VA

Hi there!

Checking in to see if there are any photos of the Speaker you're able to send our way. We would love to be able to include them in a video we have planned to go out later today.

Thanks!
(b)(6)

On Nov 10, 2025, at 4:27 PM, (b)(6) @mail.house.gov> wrote:

Thank you! We'll be on the lookout for these photos tomorrow.

Best,
(b)(6)

<image001.png>

(b)(6)
Speaker of the House Mike Johnson (LA-04)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT



AMERICAN OVERSIGHT



AMERICAN OVERSIGHT



AMERICAN OVERSIGHT



AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Fri, 5 Dec 2025 13:47:24 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Save Our Veterans

(b)(6)

Good morning. I hope this finds you doing well. Thank you for your service to this Nation and for your continued advocacy serving with Congressman Stutzman.

I appreciate the thoughtful comments you provided and for taking the time to provide this recommendation. I will connect this to our HR&A team and will let them know you are available should they have any questions.

I appreciate your time and continued support of Veterans and their families.

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile
Email (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 4, 2025 3:37 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Save Our Veterans

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Hello Mr. Stoddard,

I received your contact information from another green to gold fellowship member. I am reaching out because I know the Secretary of the VA works very hard on fixing the issues within the VA. He sees the issues and is doing a great job. I wanted to reach out to explain an opinion of mine that I feel would work to get the Veteran workforce growing by using the very system that supports them. That system is the VA. I have over my time out of the Army looked for jobs on USA jobs to work within the VA before I decided to go politics to make the difference with laws. I was always seeing jobs that said they needed this degree or that degree or this was preferred. I have talked with the unemployment office in my area that told me the USA jobs system only pushes through resumes that fit so much of the criteria of the job and if it isn't worded a particular way the system will not allow your resume and application through to be looked at.

The idea I have is simple and would help put the Veterans back to work in the VA hospitals and Clinics to help their brother and sisters in arms. For the jobs that do not require a degree like cooks, cleaning, landscaping, etc.… These types of jobs are jobs that don't need a degree to do but a chance at doing that job hands on. In the Army I didn't know anything about being a 91B (all wheeled vehicle mechanic) until I hit AIT and even with the basic book training I didn't understand until I got to my first duty station and put my hands on the equipment and from there I thrived. Why are we not doing this with Veterans so they can make a decent wage and keep working with their brothers and sisters in arms. It would get them the sense of purpose again and help keep them clean from drugs and alcohol and focus on their life's. This benefits the Veteran and the VA because roles are being filled by the very people the VA is supposed to help.

For the larger Va Hospitals that have housing on the campus, they could house and employ the Veterans in the community. Doing this would allow us to get homeless veterans in places and working again to survive. This would make a huge impact on the Veteran community which I think deserves to come before civilian workers. This was just food for thought and I hope to receive a reply about the idea of housing and employing Veterans in America while they work for their brother and sisters in arms. This could make the impact that they need in their life and help find that sense of purpose and respect that they deserve more than anyone else in the United States. Feel free to reach back out to me for questions and concerns and hopefully Secretary Doug Collins sees this idea and wants to move forward with it.

(b)(6)
Congressman Marlin Stutzman (IN-03)
Main: 260-702-(b)(6)
E:(b)(6)@mail.house.gov

Marlin Stutzman
Serving Indiana's 3rd District

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Fri, 5 Dec 2025 15:30:47 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Return Visit to Michigan

(b)(6)

Thank you. Very helpful. Have a great weekend

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile:
Email: (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 5, 2025 10:29 AM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Return Visit to Michigan

So, the contact information I have for Zero Day and Sliver Star is (b)(6) He is the head of the recreational planning of Zero Day. He can best be reached at (b)(6) (b)(6) M-F 0800 to 1700. The organization of Zero Day can be reached at (b)(6) and email (b)(6) @zero-day.us . Thank you, Mike, for your time and look forward to see you all in January.

(b)(6)
(b)(6)
USMC Veteran

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Congressman Tim Walberg (MI-05)
401 W. Michigan Ave.
Jackson, Michigan 49201
Phone: (b)(6) (b)(6)
http://walberg.house.gov

From: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Friday, December 5, 2025 8:52 AM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: Return Visit to Michigan

(b)(6)

Good morning and great to hear from you. I hope you are doing well and that you also had an incredible Thanksgiving weekend. I am grateful for our partnership and appreciate you reaching out to me with this opportunity. We are planning to be back in the Battle Creek area in mid-January. We are still working the specific dates, but I will provide this opportunity to the DEPSEC.

Would you be able to send me any information that will help inform this meeting request?

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile:
Email: (b)(6) @va.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 4, 2025 2:47 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Return Visit to Michigan

Good afternoon Michael,

I am reaching out to you regarding a possible trip back to the Battle Creek, Mi area. I know (b)(6) had spoke about wanting to come back to the area some time in January. If he is still looking to come, I would like to extend the offer to have a meeting at the Sliver Star complex on the VA grounds in Battle Creek. They have reached out to my office a few times now to express their interest in hosting the Deputy Secretary as they would like to discuss how the VA could assist this organization to better help Veteran in the state of Michigan. Hope you had a great Thanksgiving and thank you for your time.

Kind regards,

(b)(6)
(b)(6)
USMC Veteran
Congressman Tim Walberg (MI-05)
401 W. Michigan Ave.
Jackson, Michigan 49201
Phone: (b)(6) (b)(6)
http://walberg.house.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Syrek, Christopher D.
Sent: Fri, 12 Dec 2025 17:41:36 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) Bergin, Donald J.
Subject: RE: Section 5901

(b)(6) – great seeing you guys. Adding Don for tracking and awareness.

I am familiar with this issue. Will talk with (b)(5)

I am around all Christmas, text me some dates.

Chris

From: (b)(6)@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2025 6:17 PM
To: Syrek, Christopher D. (b)(6)@va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@mail.house.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Section 5901

Hi Chris,

Great to see you last night and looking forward to getting together soon for drinks if you are free soon.

I wanted to see if you can help me run something down related to section 5901 and the ongoing discussion on (b)(5)

(b)(5)

(b)(5) Very happy to chat about this offline if that is easier. Thanks! – (b)(6)

(b)(6)
(b)(6)
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs
Chairman Mike Bost (IL-12)
(C) (b)(6) (b)(6) | veterans.house.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Syrek, Christopher D.
Sent: Mon, 15 Dec 2025 15:29:07 +0000
To: Bergin, Donald J.;(b)(6)
Subject: RE: BLUMENTHAL STATEMENT ON TRUMP VA'S PLAN TO ELIMINATE MORE THAN 35,000 HEALTH CARE JOBS

Yep

From: Bergin, Donald J. (b)(6)@va.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 15, 2025 9:31 AM
To:(b)(6)@mail.house.gov>; Syrek, Christopher D. (b)(6)@va.gov>
Subject: RE: BLUMENTHAL STATEMENT ON TRUMP VA'S PLAN TO ELIMINATE MORE THAN 35,000 HEALTH CARE JOBS

All very(b)(5)

From:(b)(6)@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 15, 2025 8:41 AM
To: Syrek, Christopher D(b)(6)@va.gov>; Bergin, Donald J. (b)(6)@va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: BLUMENTHAL STATEMENT ON TRUMP VA'S PLAN TO ELIMINATE MORE THAN 35,000 HEALTH CARE JOBS

ICYMI….so(b)(5)

(b)(6)
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs
(C)(b)(6)(b)(6)

From: Timmons, Liz (Veterans Affairs) <(b)(6)vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Saturday, December 13, 2025 4:23 PM
To: Timmons, Liz (Veterans Affairs) <(b)(6)vetaff.senate.gov>
Subject: BLUMENTHAL STATEMENT ON TRUMP VA'S PLAN TO ELIMINATE MORE THAN 35,000 HEALTH CARE JOBS

RICHARD BLUMENTHAL
UNITED STATES SENATOR *for* CONNECTICUT

For Immediate Release
Contact: Liz Timmons
(202) 731-9241
December 13, 2025

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

BLUMENTHAL STATEMENT ON TRUMP VA'S PLAN TO ELIMINATE MORE THAN 35,000 HEALTH CARE JOBS

[WASHINGTON, D.C.] – Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee Ranking Member Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) today released a statement following reporting from *The Washington Post* detailing the Trump Administration's plan to eliminate as many as 35,000 health care jobs at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) this month, including unfilled positions for doctors, nurses, and support staff.

"VA Secretary Collins' continued cuts to VA's workforce are incomprehensible and inexcusable. At a time where VA has already lost more than 30,000 employees, his plan to eliminate tens of thousands of unfilled positions, including doctors and nurses, is totally unacceptable. Unfilled does not mean unnecessary— and there are no excuses for failing to fill these mission critical jobs in the first place. Removing these jobs will stretch thin a staff already struggling to meet rising workloads— leading to longer wait times and reduced access to care for veterans. Secretary Collins must be held accountable and immediately provide Congress and veterans more information around these secret plans to shrink VA's essential workforce amid the Republican's ongoing efforts to slash Americans' access to health care."

VA already lost more than 30,000 employees between January and September of this year as a result of President Trump and VA Secretary Collin's hiring freeze, deferred resignations, early retirements, and the significant number of VA staff who have quit since the Trump Administration took office in January 2025 due to draconian workforce policies.

The removal of these positions would put VA at pre-PACT Act staffing levels. More than one million veterans newly enrolled in VA health care as a result of expanded eligibility under the PACT Act, and millions more have increased reliance on VA because of toxic exposed illnesses and injuries.

-30-

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Mccormick, Cortney L.
Sent: Tue, 16 Dec 2025 16:10:05 +0000
To: (b)(6) vetstaff.senate.gov
Subject: FW: Senate Gallery Passes for 12/16

Good Morning,

I have two colleagues being Senate confirmed today, and was given your name by our congressional affairs liaison here at Department of Veterans Affairs as someone who might be able to tell me how to obtain 4 passes for the gallery. The nominees are Charles Arrington (FLRA) and John Bartram (VA). I did email Senator Scott, as my home residence is in FL, but I reside during the week in the greater DC area.

Thank you for any guidance you can provide.

V/R,

Cortney McCormick
Senior Advisor to the Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary for Veterans Affairs
(b)(6) (b)(6)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Sat, 3 Jan 2026 15:53:33 +0000
To: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs)
Subject: Re: Meeting Request with DepSec Lawrence

Good morning (b)(6)

Happy New Year. Sorry for my delayed response. I was on the road yesterday.

Happy to assist with getting this meeting scheduled. And grateful that we get the opportunity to connect again as I appreciate the friendship and partnership

Let me work on this and will circle back to you with a couple of options.

Hope you have a nice weekend

Get Outlook for iOS
From (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) <(b)(6) vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 2, 2026 2:15:58 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Meeting Request with DepSec Lawrence

Hi Michael –

Hope you had a great holiday season (hopefully you're still enjoying some downtime) and happy New Year!

Wanted to see if you could help me in setting up another informal/casual meeting with Dr. Lawrence just to chat and we make them more regular in 2026? Same people as last time, (b)(6) and (b)(6) and I'm just there for the fun of it all).

Thanks in advance,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs
825A Hart Senate Office Building
(b)(6) (b)(6) | www.veterans.senate.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Mon, 5 Jan 2026 16:47:13 +0000
To: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs)
Subject: RE: Meeting Request with DepSec Lawrence

(b)(6)

Good morning and Happy New Year. I am working on getting some dates and times for you that the DEPSEC will be available. I will be circling back to you soon.

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6)
Mobile: (b)(6)
Email: (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) <(b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 2, 2026 2:16 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Meeting Request with DepSec Lawrence

Hi Michael –

Hope you had a great holiday season (hopefully you're still enjoying some downtime) and happy New Year!

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Tue, 6 Jan 2026 17:36:35 +0000
To: (b)(6) Veterans Affairs)
Subject: RE: Meeting Request with DepSec Lawrence: Dates Available

(b)(6)

Thank you. I will see what I can find. We are traveling a lot over the next couple of months and are generally out on Tuesday's and Wednesdays. Let me circle back to you with a couple of options.

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6)
Mobile (b)(6)
Email: (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs) (b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 12:33 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting Request with DepSec Lawrence: Dates Available

Hi Mike -

Thanks for the response. Unfortunately the first time conflicts with a standing committee briefing we have and then we are scheduled to have a hearing the afternoon of the 4th.

Are there any other days on his schedule? Perhaps that Thursday? I think Thursdays or Tuesdays are usually easier on our end so as not to conflict with Wednesday hearings and Monday briefings.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Sorry to cause more hoops for you to jump through!

Thanks,

(b)(6)

Sent from my iPhone

On Jan 6, 2026, at 6:11 AM, Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6) va.gov> wrote:

(b)(6)

Good morning. We have placed these two dates as hold on Dr. Lawrence's calendar.

Feb 2, 1:00 – 2:00pm
Feb 4, 2:00 – 3:00pm

Please let me know which one works best for you and the team

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile:
Email: (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From (b)(6) Veterans Affairs) (b)(6) vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 2, 2026 2:16 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Meeting Request with DepSec Lawrence

Hi Michael –

Hope you had a great holiday season (hopefully you're still enjoying some downtime) and happy New Year!

Wanted to see if you could help me in setting up another informal/casual meeting with Dr. Lawrence just to chat and we make them more regular in 2026? Same people as last time, (b)(6) and (b)(6) and I'm just there for the fun of it all).

Thanks in advance,

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs
825A Hart Senate Office Building
(b)(6) (b)(6) www.veterans.senate.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Tue, 6 Jan 2026 17:37:48 +0000
To: (b)(6) Veterans Affairs)
Subject: RE: Meeting Request with DepSec Lawrence: Dates Available

(b)(6)

How does either the Feb 17th or 19th work?

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile
Email: (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) Veterans Affairs) (b)(6) vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 12:33 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Meeting Request with DepSec Lawrence: Dates Available

Hi Mike -

Thanks for the response. Unfortunately the first time conflicts with a standing committee briefing we have and then we are scheduled to have a hearing the afternoon of the 4th.

Are there any other days on his schedule? Perhaps that Thursday? I think Thursdays or Tuesdays are usually easier on our end so as not to conflict with Wednesday hearings and Monday briefings.

Sorry to cause more hoops for you to jump through!

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Tue, 6 Jan 2026 19:49:15 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Checking In-Happy New Year

(b)(6)

We can make that work my friend.

Will it be you and (b)(6)

Get Outlook for iOS
From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 2:01:52 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Checking In-Happy New Year

Hey Mike,

Happy New Year! I hope you well. I have been meaning to reach out to you to reschedule our monthly meetings between us and DepSec.

Can you do Wednesday, 2/4, at 2-3 pm?

(b)(6)

From: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 6, 2026 10:15 AM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: Checking In-Happy New Year

(b)(6)

Good morning. I hope this email finds you doing well and Happy New Year to you and the HVAC Team.

I am reaching out to see about getting another meeting scheduled. We are pretty booked for Jan, but looking at Feb.

I can send over a couple of options and see if those work for you.

Thoughts?

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile:
Email: (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Wed, 7 Jan 2026 19:41:55 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Webex meeting with Zero Day

(b)(6)

Good afternoon. Thank you for the email and the opportunity. I am good to go with either Feb 18 or 19. I would request that the meeting be on Teams if possible

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile
Email: (b)(6) va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 7, 2026 9:36 AM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Webex meeting with Zero Day

Good morning Michael,

I want to start by saying it was a pleasure speaking with you yesterday. Thank you for taking my call. I have spoke to Zero Day and they gave me a few dates to see what might work best for a meeting with you. Would January 27th @ 1000, January 29th @ 1300, February 16th @ 1300, February 18th @ 1000, February 19th @ 1000. If none of these dates work, I have a few other approved dates that they can be available for as

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

well. Also, I will be inviting my legislative counterpart (b)(6) and his VA contact (b)(6) to this call. Thank you for your time and I look forward to seeing you next week.

Kind regards,

(b)(6)

USMC Veteran
Congressman Tim Walberg (MI-05)
401 W. Michigan Ave.
Jackson, Michigan 49201
Phone: (b)(6) (b)(6)
http://walberg.house.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Mon, 12 Jan 2026 16:58:20 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Visit greeting tomorrow

(b)(6)

Sounds good, appreciate the understanding. And as we get closer to April, lets find a time to connect and make that happen

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile:
Email: (b)(6) va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2026 11:51 AM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Visit greeting tomorrow

Roger that. I will then hold off. Maybe we can do a veteran round table Here in the Jackson area for Veterans at his next visit in April with Congressman Walberg. Similar to what you all did last visit at the Battle Creek American Legion post 257.

(b)(6)

USMC Veteran
Congressman Tim Walberg (MI-05)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

401 W. Michigan Ave.
Jackson, Michigan 49201
Phone: (b)(6) (b)(6)
http://walberg.house.gov

From: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) va.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2026 11:27
To: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: Visit greeting tomorrow

(b)(6)

Good morning. Sorry for the late notice. I want to be respectful of your time. You will not be able to be in the room with the DEPSEC while he speaks to the VA Team. So I would recommend not coming. If you want to wait until the end of our visit, there will be time for a quick linkup prior to us departing for Saginaw

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile:
Email (b)(6) va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Monday, January 12, 2026 11:22 AM
To: Stoddard, Michael T (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Visit greeting tomorrow

Good morning Michael,

I am looking forward to being at the VA to greet the Deputy Secretary and yourself. I was wondering which building he is looking to go to first so I can be there. The main entrance is building two for reference. Thank you for your time.

Kind Regards,

(b)(6)

USMC Veteran
Congressman Tim Walberg (MI-05)
401 W. Michigan Ave.
Jackson, Michigan 49201
Phone: (b)(6) (b)(6)
http://walberg.house.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Syrek, Christopher D.
Sent: Fri, 16 Jan 2026 23:03:04 +0000
To: (b)(6) (Daines)
Cc: Figueroa, John; Lauder, Jon M.
Subject: RE: Ft Harrison Director

Thanks (b)(6)

Understand the Senator's interest in this and Ft Harrison is important to the State and Montana's Veterans.

I am adding Jon Lauder our DAS for OCLA who is well versed in the Senate, and John Figueroa our Senior advisor to SECVA who can provide an update/do a call with you.

Chris

From: (b)(6) (Daines) (b)(6) @daines.senate.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 16, 2026 10:18 AM
To: Syrek, Christopher D. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Ft Harrison Director

Hey Chris,

Following up on our conversation. Would be great to have a chat with the VA team looking at replacing Dr (b)(6) at Ft. Harrison VAMC now that he is moving to Aurora.

Thanks!

(b)(6)

(b)(6)
Senator Steve Daines – MT
Senate Hart 320
Washington, DC 20515| (b)(6) (b)(6)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Syrek, Christopher D.
Sent: Wed, 21 Jan 2026 22:14:27 +0000
To: Bergin, Donald J.; (b)(6) EOP/WHO; Lauder, Jon M.
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: Re: ***MEDIA ADVISORY***TOMORROW AT 2:30 PM: BLUMENTHAL TO HOLD VIRTUAL PRESS CONFERENCE RELEASING REPORT EXPOSING HARM OF THE TRUMP ADMINSTRATION'S ONGOING ASSAULT ON VETERANS

Thanks guys.

Get Outlook for iOS
From: Bergin, Donald J. (b)(6) va.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2026 2:32:36 PM
To (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; Syrek, Christopher D. (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/WHO <(b)(6) who.eop.gov>; Lauder, Jon M. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: Re: ***MEDIA ADVISORY***TOMORROW AT 2:30 PM: BLUMENTHAL TO HOLD VIRTUAL PRESS CONFERENCE RELEASING REPORT EXPOSING HARM OF THE TRUMP ADMINSTRATION'S ONGOING ASSAULT ON VETERANS

Thanks (b)(6) Appreciate the heads up.

Get Outlook for iOS
From: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2026 3:09:52 PM
To: Syrek, Christopher D. (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) EOP/WHO (b)(6) @who.eop.gov>; Bergin, Donald J. (b)(6) va.gov>; Lauder, Jon M. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: ***MEDIA ADVISORY***TOMORROW AT 2:30 PM: BLUMENTHAL TO HOLD VIRTUAL PRESS CONFERENCE RELEASING REPORT EXPOSING HARM OF THE TRUMP ADMINSTRATION'S ONGOING ASSAULT ON VETERANS

FYSA: Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Modern Military Alliance, Vets Voice Foundation, and Minority Veterans of America. Not (b)(5)

From: Timmons, Liz (Veterans Affairs) <(b)(6) vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 21, 2026 3:05 PM
To: Timmons, Liz (Veterans Affairs) (b)(6) vetaff.senate.gov>
Subject: ***MEDIA ADVISORY***TOMORROW AT 2:30 PM: BLUMENTHAL TO HOLD VIRTUAL PRESS CONFERENCE RELEASING REPORT EXPOSING HARM OF THE TRUMP ADMINSTRATION'S ONGOING ASSAULT ON VETERANS

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

RICHARD BLUMENTHAL
UNITED STATES SENATOR *for* CONNECTICUT

For Planning Purposes
Contact: Liz Timmons
(202) 731-9241
January 21, 2026

*****MEDIA ADVISORY*****

TOMORROW AT 2:30 PM: BLUMENTHAL TO HOLD VIRTUAL PRESS CONFERENCE RELEASING REPORT EXPOSING HARM OF THE TRUMP ADMINSTRATION'S ONGOING ASSAULT ON VETERANS

One year into the second Trump Administration, top Committee Democrat to unveil comprehensive report detailing the harm inflicted on VA and veterans by Trump, Secretary Collins, and DOGE

[WASHINGTON, D.C.] – **TOMORROW, Thursday, January 22nd at 2:30 PM**, Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee Ranking Member Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) will hold a virtual press conference releasing a comprehensive report detailing the harm and impacts of the Trump Administration's draconian directives and cuts on veterans. Blumenthal will be joined by veterans' advocates.

The report, ***Breaking the Pact: Impacts of Trump, DOGE, and Doug Collins' Ongoing Assault on Veterans,*** will be released tomorrow, ahead of the Committee's oversight hearing with Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Secretary Doug Collins next week.

The Committee report—compiled from extensive reporting, firsthand accounts, and ongoing conversations with veterans and VA employees across the nation—details the Trump Administration's systemic assault on VA over the past year and the tangible impacts its cuts are having on veterans. Among its many findings, the report reveals historic staffing losses at the Department resulting in dire workforce shortages, increasing wait times for life-saving mental health care, and veterans' care and benefits being put at risk as a direct result of VA Secretary Collins' harmful policies.

WHO: U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT)
Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America
Modern Military Alliance

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Vets Voice Foundation
Minority Veterans of America

WHAT: Press conference unveiling a Committee report on the negative impacts of the Trump Administration's policies for veterans

WHEN: Thursday, January 22nd at 2:30 PM ET

WHERE: Please RSVP to (b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov to receive the Zoom link

-30-

Follow Senator Blumenthal online:

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Fri, 30 Jan 2026 20:17:15 +0000
To: (b)(6) (Veterans Affairs)
Subject: RE: Checking in

Hi (b)(6)

Thank you for checking in. We are doing well. And nothing needed at this time but always appreciate that I can reach out to you.

As far as connecting me with groups, I would ask for context so I know who I could be talking with.

I have heard of (b)(6), and I would defer from talking with him at least for the near term. But let me know who else you have in mind and I would be happy to considerate it

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile
Email (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) Veterans Affairs) <(b)(6) vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2026 2:07 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Checking in

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Hi friend-

Hope you've been well! Wanted to just check in and see how things were and if there's anything I can be helpful with? Also wanted to ask how much or open you are for me to connect you with certain groups that just want to bend your ear after I talk to them? I want to be respectful of your time and trust me, I get it all these groups out here haha. Again, no issue for me either way, just let me know. Not sure if you have met or heard of (b)(6) before, but he's one I was recently connected with via a mutual friend on the MDE side of stuff. Seems interesting, but also no pressure if you can't take on more meetings haha.

Just let me know,

(b)(6)

Chairman Jerry Moran (R-KS)
Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Syrek, Christopher D.
Sent: Fri, 30 Jan 2026 21:45:57 +0000
To: (b)(6) Figueroa, John
Cc: (b)(6) clearme.com (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Introduction and connection to discuss VA modernization of online identify verification solutions

Thanks for the connect (b)(6)

Adding (b)(6) for my schedule, happy to meet.

From (b)(6) tibercreekgroup.com>
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2026 3:59 PM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; Syrek, Christopher D. (b)(6) @va.gov>; Figueroa, John <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @clearme.com
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Introduction and connection to discuss VA modernization of online identify verification solutions

(b)(6) – thank you so much for the introduction.

Chris, John – appreciate your willingness to meet. We would welcome the opportunity to come in to discuss ways CLEAR can help the VA achieve their mission of serving veterans. We are happy to work around your schedules – what are the best windows of availability convenient for you in the coming weeks? *(We are largely available other than February 6.)*

Grateful for your time and consideration.

V/r,
(b)(6)

--
(b)(6)
TIBER CREEK GROUP
(b)(6) @tibercreekgroup.com
(b)(6) (b)(6)

TIBER CREEK GROUP

From: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Date: Friday, January 30, 2026 at 3:25 PM
To: "Syrek, Christopher D." (b)(6) va.gov>, "Figueroa, John" (b)(6) @va.gov>

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Cc: (b)(6) @clearme.com" <(b)(6) @clearme.com>(b)(6)
(b)(6) tibercreekgroup.com>
Subject: Introduction and connection to discuss VA modernization of online identify verification solutions

Good afternoon, everyone,

I will make this short and sweet.

Chris and John, I want to introduce you to (b)(6) and (b)(6) two good friends and former appropriations experts who worked for Chairman Cole and Chair Daiz-Balart. (b)(6) (b)(6) s currently the (b)(6) at CLEAR, which operates biometric travel documents—like those used at airports (b)(6) serves as a (b)(6) t Tiber Creek Group. They are interested in connecting with key figures in the VA to discuss how they are expanding their offerings in the VA space through their Clear 1 platform. CLEAR is active in healthcare and works with CMS, providing digital identity services for Medicare (source: offering digital identity services for medicare.)

Now, (b)(6) and (b)(6) let me introduce you to Chris Syrek and John Figueroa, two good friends, who are both dedicated to transforming the VA for the 21st century. Chris Syrek currently serves as the Chief of Staff to SECVA Colins, while John Figueroa is a senior advisor to SECVA Colins.

Thank you, Chris and John, for taking the time to meet with (b)(6) and (b)(6) I'll step away now and let you all continue the conversation.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)
House Veterans Affairs Committee
(b)(6)
Chairman Mike Bost (IL-12)
(b)(6) (b)(6) @mail.house.gov
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

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AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Syrek, Christopher D.
Sent: Sat, 31 Jan 2026 19:16:55 +0000
To: (b)(6) (Rick Scott); (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6) (Aging); (b)(6) Bergin, Donald J.
Subject: Re: Dinner invite

Principal meeting is fine

Thanks

Get Outlook for iOS
From: (b)(6) (Rick Scott) (b)(6) @rickscott.senate.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2026 7:43:55 PM
To: (b)(6) va.gov>; Syrek, Christopher D. (b)(6) va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) (Aging) (b)(6) @aging.senate.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) @va.gov>; Bergin, Donald J. (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Dinner invite

Great thank you so much! He is happy to host at his townhouse and we will probably order in Capital Grille. We would like to keep it principals only, but if you all prefer for one senior staffer each, I can check with our team on that.

His address is (b)(6)

From: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Friday, January 30, 2026 11:33 AM
To: (b)(6) (Rick Scott) (b)(6) @rickscott.senate.gov>; Syrek, Christopher D.
(b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) (Aging) (b)(6) @aging.senate.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) @va.gov>; Bergin, Donald J. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: RE: Dinner invite

Hi (b)(6)

I hope you've had a great week!

Secretary Collins is available for the dinner on February 9th at 7:15 PM. Could you please provide any details regarding the dinner arrangements?

Thank you,
(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (Rick Scott) (b)(6) @rickscott.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 5:48 PM
To: (b)(6) @va.gov>; Syrek, Christopher D. (b)(6) @va.gov>;

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Bergin, Donald J. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) (Aging) (b)(6) @aging.senate.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Dinner invite

Please see below!

Monday, Feb 2nd at 7:15pm
Tuesday, Feb 3rd at 6:30pm or 7pm
Monday, Feb 9th at 7:15pm
Tuesday, March 17th at 6:30 or 7pm

If you could let me know if the next week options have potential or not that would be appreciated. For planning purposes, he is happy to host at his townhouse that is very close to the Hart Senate Office Building

---

From: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 4:04 PM
To: (b)(6) (Rick Scott) <(b)(6) @rickscott.senate.gov>; Syrek, Christopher D.
(b)(6) va.gov>; Bergin, Donald J. (b)(6) va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) (Aging) <(b)(6) @aging.senate.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: Re: Dinner invite

Hey (b)(6)

That would be extremely helpful if you can provide a few dates and times over the next few months.

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (Rick Scott) <(b)(6) @rickscott.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, January 28, 2026 2:52 PM
To: Syrek, Christopher D. <(b)(6) @va.gov>; Bergin, Donald J.
(b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) (Aging) (b)(6) @aging.senate.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Dinner invite

Hi there,

I just wanted to follow up to see the best way to get this scheduled. Happy to propose a could options over the next couple months if helpful?

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Thanks!
(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (Rick Scott)
Sent: Thursday, January 8, 2026 12:03 PM
To: 'Syrek, Christopher D.' (b)(6) @va.gov>; Bergin, Donald J. <(b)(6) va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) (Aging) (b)(6) @aging.senate.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: RE: Dinner invite

Thank you!

From: Syrek, Christopher D. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 8, 2026 11:57 AM
To: Bergin, Donald J. <(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) (Rick Scott)
(b)(6) @rickscott.senate.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) (Aging) (b)(6) @aging.senate.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: RE: Dinner invite

Thanks (b)(6)

We will get something on the books. They had a great meeting during confirmation, I know he will look forward to it.

Chris

Christopher D. Syrek
Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
Department of Veterans Affairs
Mobile: (b)(6) (b)(6)

Pre-Decisional

From: Bergin, Donald J. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 8, 2026 9:12 AM
To: (b)(6) (Rick Scott) <(b)(6) rickscott.senate.gov>; Syrek, Christopher D.
<(b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) (Aging) <(b)(6) @aging.senate.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: Re: Dinner invite

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Thanks (b)(6) We'll work it with the Senator's scheduling team.

Get Outlook for iOS

From: (b)(6) (Rick Scott) <(b)(6) @rickscott.senate.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 8, 2026 8:26:47 AM
To: Syrek, Christopher D (b)(6) @va.gov>; Bergin, Donald J. <(b)(6) va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) (Aging) <(b)(6) aging.senate.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Dinner invite

Good morning,

I wanted to reach out on behalf of Senator Rick Scott to invite Secretary Collins over for dinner at the Senator's townhouse in DC at a time convenient for both of them. The Senator does not have a specific agenda, but would appreciate the opportunity to get to know the Secretary better and discuss their priorities in a relaxed setting, likely just the two of them. Please let me know if this might be of interest and I would be happy to look for dates in the near future. If having one member of his team join, we would be open to that as well.

One of the Senator's priorities that I do know he would like to discuss is his work as Chairman of the Senate Aging Committee on the vulnerabilities of our foreign-made generic drug supply chain and ensuring robust federal support for domestic drug manufacturers. Below is a report for reference as well as one of his committee hearings where the VA was a topic of focus:

https://www.aging.senate.gov/imo/media/doc/senate_aging_american_drugs_report.pdf
https://www.aging.senate.gov/press-releases/chairman-rick-scott-issues-warning-to-american-families-your-medicine-cabinets-could-be-unsafe
https://www.aging.senate.gov/press-releases/chairman-rick-scott-leads-aging-hearing-on-navigating-path-to-restoring-us-leadership-in-essential-drug-manufacturing

Thanks in advance!
(b)(6)

(b)(6)
Office of U.S. Senator Rick Scott

(b)(6) @rickscott.senate.gov

WINNER OF BEST CONSTITUENT SERVICES IN CONGRESS | RICK SCOTT

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Tue, 3 Feb 2026 18:31:44 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: EHRM

(b)(6)

I should have also said, definitely would like to see what others dates and time you have in mind.

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile
Email: (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 1:19 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) @mail.house.gov> (b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: EHRM

Michael,

Is Depsec Lawrence available to meet with the Congressman on Tuesday, February 10th, from 2:45-3:15 pm in our office (1232 LHOB)? I'm happy to offer a few additional times if this doesn't work for him.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Best,
(b)(6)

Office of Congressman Tom Barrett (MI-07)
1232 Longworth House Office Building
(b)(6) (b)(6)



From: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2026 8:23 AM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: RE: EHRM

(b)(6)

Good morning. Thank you for reaching out and for the coordination for this visit.

The conversation would be about EHRM and the Go live in Michigan which is set for April 11.

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile:
Email (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Sunday, February 1, 2026 3:54 PM
To (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Cc: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: EHRM

Hey (b)(6)

Good to hear from you, and thanks for reaching out. Apologies for the delayed response, as I was on official travel with no access to my inbox.

We would be happy to find some time for the Dep. Sec. and the Congressman to chat, and I am looping in (b)(6) on our team to help find some windows.

What specifically will the conversation be about?

Thanks,
(b)(6)



(b)(6)
Rep. Tom Barrett (MI-07)
(b)(6) (b)(6) barrett.house.gov

From: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Date: Thursday, January 29, 2026 at 10:06 AM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Cc: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>, (b)(6) <(b)(6) @va.gov>, (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: Re: EHRM

Hey (b)(6)

Just bumping this up in your inbox. Thanks so much!

(b)(6)
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
Department of Veterans Affairs

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

(b)(6) (b)(6) - mobile
(b)(6) @va.gov

*** PRE-DECISIONAL ***-

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, January 26, 2026 9:06:35 AM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Cc: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov> (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: EHRM

Hey (b)(6)

I hope that this email finds you well and you're staying warm in the snow!

I am reaching out to assist in facilitating a meeting between Rep. Barrett and VA Deputy Secretary Dr. Paul Lawrence. I have cc'ed his team on this email. If you wouldn't mind sending a few windows that might work for your boss over the next few weeks, we can work to sync with Dr. Lawrence's schedule.

Thank you so much!

(b)(6)
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
Department of Veterans Affairs
(b)(6) (b)(6) mobile
(b)(6) va.gov

*** PRE-DECISIONAL ***-

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Wed, 4 Feb 2026 18:26:33 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: EHRM

(b)(6)

Good afternoon. Yes we can lock in 10-1030. I have added the EA Ms. (b)(6) for Dr. Lawrence who can assist with the phone number to call.

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6)
Mobile (b)(6)
Email: (b)(6)@va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 1:03 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6) va.gov>; (b)(6) (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: EHRM

Can we lock in the call tomorrow from 10:00-10:30 AM? What phone number should the Congressman use to call in?

(b)(6)
Office of Congressman Tom Barrett (MI-07)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

1232 Longworth House Office Building
(b)(6) (b)(6)

CONGRESSMAN
TOM BARRETT

From: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 12:41 PM
To: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) (b)(6) @mail.house.gov> (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: RE: EHRM

Team,

Yes, The only time he is not available is 1030-1100.

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile:
Email: (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 12:38 PM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov> (b)(6) @va.gov>; Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: EHRM

(b)(6)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Is Dr. Lawrence available for a call with the Congressman tomorrow between 9:15 and 11:00 am?

(b)(6)

Office of Congressman Tom Barrett (MI-07)
1232 Longworth House Office Building
(b)(6) (b)(6)

CONGRESSMAN
TOM BARRETT
REPRESENTING THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN'S 7TH DISTRICT

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 11:00 AM
To: (b)(6) @va.gov>; Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Subject: Re: EHRM

Hi (b)(6) working on this. We can find time for a call tomorrow. I will circle back ASAP.

From: "(b)(6) va.gov>
Date: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 at 10:30 AM
To: "Stoddard, Michael T." <(b)(6) @va.gov>, "(b)(6) (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: EHRM

Hello all,

There is some urgency to get this conversation on the calendar between Dr. Lawrence and Rep. Barrett. Can we shift to a phone call and try for later today or tomorrow at the latest?

Thanks so much!

(b)(6)

Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
Department of Veterans Affairs
(b)(6) (b)(6) – mobile
(b)(6) @va.gov

*** PRE-DECISIONAL ***

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 2:58 PM
To: (b)(6)@va.gov>; (b)(6)@mail.house.gov
Subject: Re: EHRM

(b)(6)

Can we get some time with him on the 6th or 9th?

Would like to meet in person if possible

Get Outlook for iOS

From (b)(6)va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 2:51:58 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Subject: FW: EHRM

Hey Mike, I know we'd rather have this conversation sooner rather than later. Would y'all be open to a virtual meeting? Wanted to check with you before I offered.

(b)(6)
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
Department of Veterans Affairs
(b)(6) (b)(6) – mobile
(b)(6) va.gov

*** PRE-DECISIONAL ***-

From: (b)(6)@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 2:50 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6)@va.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6)@mail.house.gov>; (b)(6)va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: EHRM

Unfortunately, the 12th is a fly-out day, so the schedule is tight, and on the 18th, the Congressman will be back in Michigan. What about March 3rd from 4:00-4:30 pm? Is this too far out?

(b)(6)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

(b)(6)
Office of Congressman Tom Barrett (MI-07)
1232 Longworth House Office Building
(b)(6) (b)(6)

CONGRESSMAN
TOM BARRETT
REPRESENTING THE PEOPLE OF MICHIGAN'S 7TH DISTRICT

From: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 1:23 PM
To: (b)(6)@mail.house.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6)@mail.house.gov>; (b)(6)va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@va.gov>
Subject: RE: EHRM

(b)(6)

Thank you for reaching out. We will be in Ann Arbor on the 10th and Detroit on the 11th. Could we look at the 12th or 18th?

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile:
Email: (b)(6)@va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 3, 2026 1:19 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) <(b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: EHRM

Michael,

Is Depsec Lawrence available to meet with the Congressman on Tuesday, February 10th, from 2:45-3:15 pm in our office (1232 LHOB)? I'm happy to offer a few additional times if this doesn't work for him.

Best,

(b)(6)

Office of Congressman Tom Barrett (MI-07)
1232 Longworth House Office Building

(b)(6) (b)(6)

CONGRESSMAN
TOM BARRETT

From: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2026 8:23 AM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) <(b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: RE: EHRM

(b)(6)

Good morning. Thank you for reaching out and for the coordination for this visit.

The conversation would be about EHRM and the Go live in Michigan which is set for April 11.

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Mon, 9 Feb 2026 17:36:25 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: DDS4Vets Gala

Good afternoon (b)(6)

It was very nice meeting you as well and look forward to our continued partnership. I truly appreciated Congressman Mast introducing me and my only error was not getting an picture with him. Thank you for the kind words, I will pass on to the Dr. Lawrence.

I acknowledge providing an update on the tragic event at the Thomas H. Corey Medical Center once we can provide more information.

I want to thank Congressman Mast and his entire team for your advocacy and care about Veterans and their families.

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6)
Mobile: (b)(6)
Email: (b)(6)@va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 9, 2026 12:22 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] DDS4Vets Gala

Good afternoon, Michael:

It was a pleasure meeting you at the veteran's gala this past Saturday. While I had to depart with Congressman Mast following your introduction, my colleague, (b)(6) informed me of the positive updates you shared. We look forward to veteran choice and speed of care improving over the coming months!

On a more somber note, our office was very disheartened to hear about the self-inflicted shooting death that took place on the grounds of the Thomas H. Corey VA Medical Center last week. We have received a number of phone calls from concerned veterans, and Congressman Mast looks forward to learning more about what occurred when more information is released.

Regards,

(b)(6)
U.S. Congressman Brian Mast (FL-21)
Chairman, Foreign Affairs Committee
(b)(6) (b)(6)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Thu, 12 Feb 2026 13:46:33 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Zero Day, Congressman Walberg Staff, and VA

(b)(6)

Good morning. I hope you are well. Unfortunately, I have to reschedule this meeting. I will now be in Michigan for a EHRM Congressional Oversight visit.

I can make Feb 23rd at the same time work if that is good for everyone else.

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6)
Mobile (b)(6)
Email (b)(6)@va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

-----Original Appointment-----
From (b)(6)@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 8, 2026 9:02 AM
To: (b)(6) Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) zero-day.us; (b)(6)
Subject: Zero Day, Congressman Walberg Staff, and VA
When: Wednesday, February 18, 2026 10:00 AM-11:00 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Meeting to discuss NOS, Veteran Suicide, and Veteran Homelessness.

Microsoft Teams [Need help?]

Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: (b)(6)

Passcode: (b)(6)

Dial in by phone

+1 (b)(6) (b)(6) United States, Tacoma

Find a local number

Phone conference ID: (b)(6)

For organizers: Meeting options | Reset dial-in PIN

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Mon, 23 Feb 2026 14:24:46 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Zero Day, Congressman Walberg Staff, and VA

(b)(6)

Good morning. So sorry for the this last minute change. With our weather and my travel for the EHRM Oversight visits, I will not be available at 10am.

I can offer Friday 27 Feb 12-2. Please let me know and again so sorry for the late notice

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6)
Mobile: (b)(6)
Email: (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

-----Original Appointment-----
From: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Sent: Thursday, January 8, 2026 9:02 AM
To: (b)(6) Stoddard, Michael T.; (b)(6) @zero-day.us; (b)(6)
Subject: Zero Day, Congressman Walberg Staff, and VA
When: Monday, February 23, 2026 10:00 AM-11:00 AM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Meeting to discuss NOS, Veteran Suicide, and Veteran Homelessness.

Microsoft Teams [Need help?]

Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: (b)(6)

Passcode: V

Dial in by phone

+1 (b)(6) (b)(6) United States, Tacoma

Find a local number

Phone conference ID: (b)(6)

For organizers: Meeting options | Reset dial-in PIN

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Mon, 23 Feb 2026 16:31:07 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Zero Day, Congressman Walberg Staff, and VA

(b)(6)

We can make that work. Thank you

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile:
Email: (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2026 11:09 AM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Zero Day, Congressman Walberg Staff, and VA

Good morning, Michael,

Would noon to 1300 work for you? I have another meeting at 1300. Thank you for your time.

(b)(6)
USMC Veteran

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Congressman Tim Walberg (MI-05)
401 W. Michigan Ave.
Jackson, Michigan 49201
Phone: (b)(6) (b)(6)
http://walberg.house.gov



-----Original Appointment-----
From: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) va.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2026 10:35
To: (b)(6)
Subject: New Time Proposed: Zero Day, Congressman Walberg Staff, and VA
When: Monday, February 23, 2026 10:00-11:00 (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).
Where: Microsoft Teams Meeting

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Fri, 27 Feb 2026 19:33:05 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Follow up for the Meeting

Good afternoon (b)(6)

It was great seeing you and appreciate you making the coordination. Look forward to seeing how I can best assist. And appreciate our partnership

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile
Email: (b)(6) va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) l@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2026 1:27 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Follow up for the Meeting

Good afternoon Mike,

I wanted to write and just say again thank you for taking time out of your day to meet with our constituent Zero Day. I know you gave them a lot of good advice and information. As soon as I get that paperwork from them, I will be sending it over. Thank you for your time.

Kind regards,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

(b)(6)

USMC Veteran
Congressman Tim Walberg (MI-05)
401 W. Michigan Ave.
Jackson, Michigan 49201
Phone: (b)(6) b)(6)
http://walberg.house.gov



AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Fri, 27 Feb 2026 21:48:39 +0000
To: (b)(6) (Rick Scott)
Subject: Re: Veteran Constituent - VA Health Issue

Awesome. That was quicker than I expected. I am happy it worked out.

Get Outlook for iOS
From: (b)(6) Rick Scott) <(b)(6) @rickscott.senate.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2026 4:18:03 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Veteran Constituent - VA Health Issue

Thanks so much!! We received a response from the VA and will pass to the constituent.

From: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2026 2:18 PM
To: (b)(6) (Rick Scott) (b)(6) @rickscott.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Veteran Constituent - VA Health Issue

(b)(6)

Good afternoon. So sorry to hear about this. Let me work it and I will circle back to you.

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile:
Email: (b)(6) @va.gov

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AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) Rick Scott) (b)(6) @rickscott.senate.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2026 2:27 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Veteran Constituent - VA Health Issue

Hi Mike – happy Friday and hope you have been well!

A member of the City of Niceville Council contacted our office on behalf of a veteran constituent, Mr. (b)(6) Mr. (b)(6) s currently admitted to HCA Twin Cities Hospital in Niceville and is awaiting VA approval for a medical procedure. His doctor submitted his request to the VA on Monday, 2/23, but has not yet received a response.

He is anxious to obtain authorization before the end of the day to avoid remaining hospitalized over the weekend while waiting for a decision. He shared that the delay has been financially burdensome and strain on his mental health.

Our team has reached out to the VA Health System in Biloxi and is currently awaiting a formal reply. We have a privacy act consent form on hand from Mr (b)(6)

Full Name: (b)(6)
Email (b)(6) @centurylink.net
Cell: (b)(6) (b)(6)
VA # (b)(6)

In the meantime, we would greatly appreciate any assistance, contacts, or resources you may be able to provide to help expedite a response for Mr. (b)(6)

Thank you so much!!!
(b)(6)

(b)(6)
Office of U.S. Senator Rick Scott
(b)(6) (b)(6)
(b)(6) @RickScott.Senate.Gov



WINNER OF BEST CONSTITUENT SERVICES IN CONGRESS | RICK SCOTT

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Wed, 4 Mar 2026 17:02:16 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Help if you can

(b)(6)

Good afternoon. I hope you are well. This is being worked on as I am sending this email. She will be contacted directly from our Veteran Experience Office and they will ensure her concerns are being addressed appropriately.

Thank you for your continued advocacy

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile
Email: (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 3, 2026 12:28 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Help if you can

Good afternoon, sir

I am reaching out to find out if you have been able to find out what is going on before I reach out to the constituent to let her know any updates on her case?

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 3:23 PM
To: (b)(6)@mail.house.gov>
Subject: Re: Help if you can

(b)(6)

Good afternoon. Thank you for advocating for this Veteran. I understand the concern and the frustration.

I will have someone from my team look into this.

I am currently at the airport on my way to Michigan so I ask for a little patience while I work thru this.

Get Outlook for iOS

From: (b)(6)@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 24, 2026 3:08:32 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Help if you can

Good afternoon sir,

I have a constituent that has been in the process of claims for 9 years. She finally got in

(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

(b)(6)

Thank you so much for taking the time to speak with me today. I have attached (b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

(b)(6); (b)(3):38 U.S.C. 5701

(b)(6)
Congressman Marlin Stutzman (IN-03)
Main: (b)(6) (b)(6)
E: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov



AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Mccormick, Cortney L.
Sent: Mon, 9 Mar 2026 19:54:48 +0000
To: Senator Rick Scott
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Don't Forget To Spring Forward!

From: Senator Rick Scott <Outreach@rickscott.senate.gov>
Sent: Saturday, March 7, 2026 7:06:15 PM
To: Mccormick, Cortney L. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Don't Forget To Spring Forward!



Don't Forget to Spring Forward! Sunday, March 8th: Daylight Saving Time Begins

Dear Fellow Floridian,

This weekend, Floridians and families across the country approach another year of springing forward and enjoying more sunshine. This extra hour of sunlight in the evening means more time to play with your kids, walk your dog, and enjoy all that the Sunshine State's beautiful beaches, parks, and cities have to offer.

As your U.S. Senator, I am continuing my push to make Daylight Saving Time the national year-round standard with my ***Sunshine Protection Act***. In 2018, as Governor of Florida, I signed legislation that, pending federal approval, would exempt Florida from the biannual time change and allow the state to remain on Daylight Saving Time year-round.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Last year, I was **joined** by 17 of my bipartisan Senate colleagues in reintroducing the *Sunshine Protection Act,* and we even received **President Donald Trump's** support for locking the clock. But the fight to lock the clock isn't over! I won't stop fighting for Congress to pass my *Sunshine Protection Act and* deliver this permanent change once and for all.

It's clear that now is the time to finally LOCK THE CLOCK and make Daylight Saving Time permanent so that families can enjoy brighter evenings all year long.

*See a video message from Senator Scott **HERE** or below.*



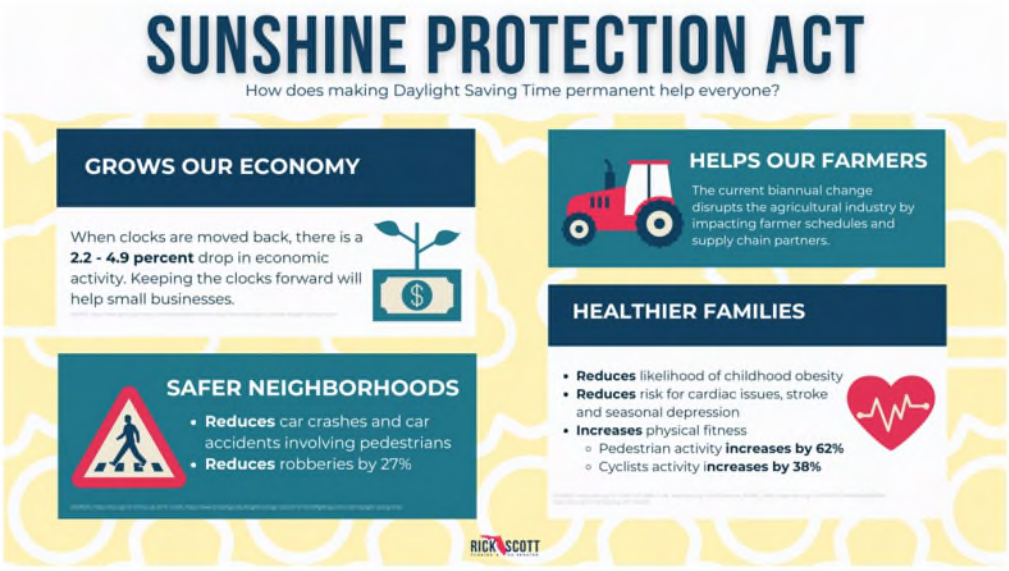
Read more **HERE**.

Sincerely

Rick Scott

United States Senator

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT



TALLAHASSEE
111 N. Adams Street, Suite 208
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Phone: (850) 942-8415

WEST PALM BEACH
415 Clematis Street, Suite 201
West Palm Beach, FL 33401
Phone: (561) 514-0189

TAMPA
801 North Florida Avenue, Suite 421
Tampa, FL 33602
Phone: (813) 225-7040

KISSIMMEE
1 Courthouse Square, Suite 300
Kissimmee, FL 34741
Phone: (407) 586-7879

PENSACOLA
221 Palafox Place, Suite 420
Pensacola, FL 32502
Phone: (850) 760-5151

MIAMI
901 Ponce de Leon Blvd., Suite 505
Miami, FL 33134
Phone: (786) 501-7141

NAPLES
3299 Tamiami Trail East, #106
Naples, FL 34112
Phone: (239) 231-7890

JACKSONVILLE
400 West Bay Street, Suite 289
Jacksonville, FL 32202
Phone: (904) 479-7227

ORLANDO
225 East Robinson Street, Suite 410
Orlando, FL 32801
Phone: (407) 872-7161

WASHINGTON, D.C.
110 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
Phone: (202) 224-5274

Fax: (202) 228-4535

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AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Fri, 13 Mar 2026 17:44:30 +0000
To: (b)(6) Murkowski)
Subject: RE: Anchorage Vet Center

(b)(6)

Good afternoon from DC. It was great meeting you as well and really appreciate the time you spent with us at both Veteran townhalls.

Thank you for making me aware of this concern. I will look into it.

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6)
Mobile (b)(6)
Email (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) (Murkowski) <(b)(6) @murkowski.senate.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 12, 2026 5:24 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: Anchorage Vet Center

Mr. Stoddard,

Pleasure to meet with you.

Below is the email chain I started on June 2, 2025.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

I am not trying to get anyone in trouble, but I was promised a response and never received one.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

Senator Lisa Murkowski
Anchorage office
(b)(6) (b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (Murkowski)
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2025 7:06 PM
To: 'Fisher, Michael (10RCS)' <(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) va.gov'
(b)(6) @va.gov>; Boyd, Teresa D. <(b)(6) va.gov>
Cc: Steinbrunner, Thomas <(b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: RE: Anchorage Vet Center

All,

This is the second letter from Mr. (b)(6) egarding the Vet Center in Anchorage:

(b)(6)

Anchorage, AK 99502
(b)(6) (b)(6)
(b)(6) @alaskan.com

re: Veterans

Our Vet Center is not treating Vietnam Veterans for PTSD , refusing to adequately staff counselors for OVER 9 MONTHS...NOW They have shut us down from meeting in OUR Facility! What do YOU Intend to do about this injustice and disrespect.

--

I will need a response for Mr. (b)(6)

Sincerely,

(b)(6)
(b)(6) (b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (Murkowski)
Sent: Thursday, December 11, 2025 6:51 PM
To: 'Fisher, Michael (10RCS)' <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: Steinbrunner, Thomas <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: RE: Anchorage Vet Center

Mr. Fisher,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Good evening. I am still having veterans contacting our office on the staffing issues of the Vet Center.

Has the response been finalize that I can share with veterans? We started this process on June 2nd.

Thank you for your attention on this matter.

Sincerely,
(b)(6)
(b)(6) (b)(6)

From: (b)(6) (Murkowski)
Sent: Thursday, September 4, 2025 6:48 PM
To: 'Fisher, Michael (10RCS)' (b)(6) 6@va.gov>
Subject: RE: Anchorage Vet Center

Thank you.

From: Fisher, Michael (10RCS) (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Thursday, September 4, 2025 4:51 PM
To: (b)(6) (Murkowski) <(b)(6) @murkowski.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Anchorage Vet Center

Thank you. We were finishing up our review of the letters that were going to go out to the Congressional delegations outlining what we did. I have asked our District leaders to reevaluate their plan based on this additional letter.

Michael Fisher
Chief Officer
Readjustment Counseling Service (10RCS)
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Cell: (b)(6) (b)(6)

VET CENTER Connection. Camaraderie. Community.
www.vetcenter.va.gov

From: (b)(6) (Murkowski (b)(6) murkowski.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 3, 2025 5:52 PM
To: Fisher, Michael (10RCS) (b)(6) va.gov>
Cc: Steinbrunner, Thomas <(b)(6) @va.gov>; Boyd, Teresa D. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Anchorage Vet Center

Mr. Fisher,

Good afternoon.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Attached is another letter regarding the Anchorage Vet Center.

Look forward to your response that I can share with veterans.

Sincerely,
(b)(6)
(b)(6) (b)(6)

From: Fisher, Michael (10RCS) <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 13, 2025 9:36 AM
To: (b)(6) (Murkowski) (b)(6) murkowski.senate.gov>
Cc: Steinbrunner, Thomas (b)(6) @va.gov>; Boyd, Teresa D. (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: Re: Anchorage Vet Center

(b)(6) Thank you for the message and sending this to us. We will provide a response to the letter and updates to you and the other members of the Alaska Congressional Delegation. We will also include the staffing update we owe you.

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From: (b)(6) (Murkowski) <(b)(6) murkowski.senate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 12, 2025 12:22 PM
To: Fisher, Michael (10RCS) <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: Steinbrunner, Thomas <(b)(6) va.gov>; Boyd, Teresa D. (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Anchorage Vet Center

Mr. Fisher,

Good afternoon.

Attached is a letter I received today from (b)(6) regarding the shortage of counselors at the Vet Centers.

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
(b)(6)
(b)(6) (b)(6)

From (b)(6) (Murkowski)
Sent: Friday, August 8, 2025 9:38 PM
To: 'Fisher, Michael (10RCS)' <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: Steinbrunner, Thomas (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: RE: Anchorage Vet Center

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Mr. Fisher,

Good evening.

I am following up on the issues at the Anchorage Vet Center.

Do you have any updates to share?

Sincerely,
(b)(6)
(b)(6) (b)(6)

From: Fisher, Michael (10RCS) <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 3, 2025 3:09 PM
To: (b)(6) (Murkowski) <(b)(6)murkowski.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Anchorage Vet Center

Thank you. We will provide an update and get it to you through our concurrence channels shortly.

Michael Fisher
Chief Officer
Readjustment Counseling Service (10RCS)
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Cell: (b)(6) (b)(6)

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www.vetcenter.va.gov

From: (b)(6) (Murkowski) (b)(6)murkowski.senate.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 3, 2025 1:46 PM
To: Fisher, Michael (10RCS) <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Anchorage Vet Center

Mr. Fisher,

Good afternoon.

I had veterans who utilize the Anchorage Vet Center and expressed concerns about the staffing shortage. Nothing else to add.

Appreciate any information you can share.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Thanks,
(b)(6)
(b)(6))(6)

From: Fisher, Michael (10RCS) <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 3, 2025 9:30 AM
To: (b)(6) (Murkowski) <(b)(6) @murkowski.senate.gov>
Subject: RE: Anchorage Vet Center

Thank you for the message. I added Tom to the BCC line. Is there any additional background from your calls? We will look into and provide an update to you.

Michael Fisher
Chief Officer
Readjustment Counseling Service (10RCS)
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Cell: (b)(6) (b)(6)

VETCENTER | Connection. Camaraderie. Community.
www.vetcenter.va.gov

From: Steinbrunner, Thomas (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 2, 2025 7:45 PM
To: (b)(6) (Murkowski) (b)(6) @murkowski.senate.gov>
Cc: Fisher, Michael (10RCS) <(b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: RE: Anchorage Vet Center

Hi (b)(6)

Including Mr Fisher on the cc line. He is in the DC area.

v/r

Tom

From: (b)(6) (Murkowski) (b)(6) murkowski.senate.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 2, 2025 3:30 PM
To: Steinbrunner, Thomas <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Anchorage Vet Center

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Tom,

Please send me Mr. Fisher's contact information.

Sincerely,
(b)(6)

From: Steinbrunner, Thomas <(b)(6) va.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 2, 2025 7:19 PM
To: (b)(6) (Murkowski) <(b)(6) @murkowski.senate.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: RE: Anchorage Vet Center

Hi (b)(6) just returned from my trip to (b)(6) ..at our regional Governing Board this week.

The Vet Centers fall under a separate organization (Readjustment Counseling Service) within VHA (outside of the Alaska VA).

Mr Michael Fisher is the Chief of that service line for VHA. I can get his information for you, if you'd like.

v/r

Tom

From: (b)(6) (Murkowski) <(b)(6) @murkowski.senate.gov>
Sent: Monday, June 2, 2025 12:24 PM
To: Steinbrunner, Thomas <(b)(6) va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Anchorage Vet Center

Tom,

Good afternoon.

I had two calls recently on the lack of staffing at the Vet Center. I am aware of the hiring freeze.

What information can you share?

Thanks,
(b)(6)
(b)(6) (b)(6)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Cashour, Curtis E.
Sent: Wed, 25 Mar 2026 15:34:51 +0000
To: (b)(6) Bergin, Donald J.
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: ***MEDIA ADVISORY***TODAY AT 2:15 PM: BLUMENTHAL & ADVOCATES TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE AHEAD OF TODAY'S VOTE ON CRA TO OVERTURN TRUMP VA'S ABORTION BAN

Thanks.

Pre-decisional

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 11:28 AM
To: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6) @va.gov>; Bergin, Donald J. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] FW: ***MEDIA ADVISORY***TODAY AT 2:15 PM: BLUMENTHAL & ADVOCATES TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE AHEAD OF TODAY'S VOTE ON CRA TO OVERTURN TRUMP VA'S ABORTION BAN

(b)(6)
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs
(C) (b)(6) (b)(6)

From: Timmons, Liz (Veterans Affairs) (b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 11:18 AM
To: Timmons, Liz (Veterans Affairs) <(b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov>
Subject: ***MEDIA ADVISORY***TODAY AT 2:15 PM: BLUMENTHAL & ADVOCATES TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE AHEAD OF TODAY'S VOTE ON CRA TO OVERTURN TRUMP VA'S ABORTION BAN

RICHARD BLUMENTHAL
UNITED STATES SENATOR *for* CONNECTICUT

For Planning Purposes
Contact: Liz Timmons
(202) 731-9241
March 25, 2026

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

TODAY AT 2:15 PM: BLUMENTHAL & ADVOCATES TO HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE AHEAD OF TODAY'S VOTE ON CRA TO OVERTURN TRUMP VA'S ABORTION BAN

Lawmakers, reproductive health care advocates, and veterans to speak ahead of Senate vote on Congressional Review Act resolution to reverse the Trump VA's policy ending abortion care and counseling for veterans

[WASHINGTON, D.C.] – **TODAY, Wednesday, March 25th at 2:15 PM at the Senate Swamp,** Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee Ranking Member Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) will hold a press conference ahead of a Senate vote on his Congressional Review Act (CRA) resolution to overturn the Trump Administration's policy ending abortion counseling entirely and abortion care for veterans who have been raped or whose pregnancy is threatening their health. The Senator will be joined by veterans, reproductive health care advocates, and lawmakers.

This CRA follows a final rule filed by the Trump Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to end VA's ability to provide these services for veterans. A CRA resolution is an oversight tool Congress can use to overturn final rules issued by federal agencies with a simple majority vote. House Veterans' Affairs Committee Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Health Julia Brownley (D-CA) and Ranking Member Mark Takano (D-CA) have introduced a companion CRA resolution in the House.

In September 2022, VA began to offer abortion counseling to all pregnant veterans and CHAMPVA beneficiaries, and abortion care in cases of rape, incest, or life or health endangerment of the veteran or CHAMPVA beneficiary. This was in response to the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* ruling, which created urgent risks to the lives and health of pregnant veterans and CHAMPVA beneficiaries in states that banned or otherwise severely restricted access to abortion.

More than 462,000 women veterans of reproductive age are enrolled in VA health care, and more than 112,000 women of reproductive age are enrolled in CHAMPVA. More than half of these women live in states that have enacted abortion bans or restrictions.

WHO:	U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America Center for Reproductive Rights Veterans' Advocates Reproductive Health Care Advocates
WHEN:	Wednesday, March 25th at 2:15 PM
WHERE:	Senate Swamp

PRESS: Media are invited to RSVP to (b)(6) @vetaff.senate.gov.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Wed, 25 Mar 2026 20:33:04 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Cc:
Subject: RE: EHRM Oversight

(b)(6)

Good afternoon. I appreciate the note and yes, I can confirm that Deputy Secretary Lawrence would like to speak with Chairman Bost.

I appreciate the assistance and the connection with (b)(6)

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6)
Mobile: (b)(6)
Email: (b)(6)@va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6)@mail.house.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 4:19 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. <(b)(6)@va.gov>; (b)(6)@mail.house.gov>
Cc: (b)(6)@mail.house.gov>; (b)(6)@mail.house.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] EHRM Oversight

Hi Mike,

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

I understand from speaking with Don that Deputy Secretary Lawrence would like to speak with Chairman Bost regarding our trips to conduct oversight ahead of the go-lives in Ohio and Indiana. I have CC'd the Chairman's wonderful scheduler (b)(6) who will help propose some dates for this call. Thanks – (b)(6)

(b)(6)
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs
Chairman Mike Bost (IL-12)
(C) (b)(6) (b)(6) | veterans.house.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Stoddard, Michael T.
Sent: Wed, 25 Mar 2026 20:35:48 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: RE: EHRM Oversight

(b)(6)

Thank you so much for the quick response and the coordination. I have added (b)(6) who is the Executive Management Officer for the Deputy Secretary.

She will respond to you with what date and time works best.

(b)(6)

Please see below and thank you for the coordination.

All the best,

Michael (Mike) Stoddard
Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary
Office of the Secretary
810 Vermont Avenue NW
Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20420
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)
Mobile:
Email (b)(6) @va.gov

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PRE-DECISIONAL

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 4:33 PM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Cc: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: EHRM Oversight

Hi Mike,

Happy to schedule this! Have some availability below. Please let me know what 15 minute time block would work best for Dep. Sec. Lawrence. Thanks!

Thursday, 3/26:
12:00PM – 12:30PM

1:30PM - 2:00PM

Friday, 3/27:
11:45AM – 12:15PM

Happy to provide our conference call line as well.

Best,

(b)(6)

Chairman Mike Bost (IL-12)
352 CHOB
(b)(6) (b)(6)

**Please Note:* *Any Washington-based meetings with Congressman Bost are subject to change at any time pending votes, committee business, and impromptu meetings with other members. If a last minute schedule change occurs, the meeting will be handled by staff. Thank you in advance for your understanding.*

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 4:19 PM
To: Stoddard, Michael T. (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: EHRM Oversight

Hi Mike,

I understand from speaking with Don that Deputy Secretary Lawrence would like to speak with Chairman Bost regarding our trips to conduct oversight ahead of the go-lives in Ohio and Indiana. I have CC'd the Chairman's wonderful scheduler (b)(6) who will help propose some dates for this call. Thanks – (b)(6)

(b)(6)

House Committee on Veterans' Affairs
Chairman Mike Bost (IL-12)
(C) (b)(6) (b)(6) veterans.house.gov

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Quill, Joshua J.
Sent: Fri, 27 Mar 2026 13:40:21 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Capitol Tour

Josh Quill
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs
Department of Veterans Affairs
(b)(6) (b)(6)

FOR VA INTERNAL USE ONLY – PRE DECISIONAL DELIBERATIVE

From: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2026 9:07:17 AM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Cc: Quill, Joshua J. <(b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: Re: Capitol Tour

Thank you so much! We really appreciate this! If there's anything we can do for you please let us know!

(b)(6)
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
Department of Veterans Affairs
(b)(6) (b)(6) – mobile
(b)(6) @va.gov

*** PRE-DECISIONAL ***-

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2026 9:04:22 AM
To: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: Quill, Joshua J. <(b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Capitol Tour

Yes! My friend (b)(6) in Rep. Dave Taylor's office was able to squeeze them in at 11am today.

(b)(6)
Rep. Troy Balderson | (OH-12)

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

(b)(6) (b)(6) Rayburn 2429
From: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Friday, March 27, 2026 8:45 AM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Cc: Quill, Joshua J. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: RE: Capitol Tour

Hi (b)(6)

I hope this finds you well! Just wanted to check in and see if you will be able to accommodate this tour request. I'll reach out to some other offices if not.

Thanks so much!

(b)(6)
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
Department of Veterans Affairs
(b)(6) (b)(6) – mobile
(b)(6) @va.gov

*** PRE-DECISIONAL ***-

From (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 2:42 PM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Cc: Quill, Joshua J. (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: RE: Capitol Tour

(b)(6)

They just reached out and said that they are having email problems. Would it be possible to forward your email to (b)(6) @gmail.com?

Thank you again!!

(b)(6)
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
Department of Veterans Affairs
(b)(6) (b)(6) – mobile
(b)(6) @va.gov

*** PRE-DECISIONAL ***-

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 10:13 AM
To: (b)(6) va.gov>
Cc: Quill, Joshua J. <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: Capitol Tour

Sounds good — I reached out to that email you sent. Thanks!

(b)(6)
Rep. Troy Balderson | (OH-12)
(b)(6) (b)(6) | Rayburn 2429

From: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 9:49 AM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Cc: Quill, Joshua J. (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: RE: Capitol Tour

Thanks (b)(6) This would be for (b)(6) The phone number is (b)(6) (b)(6) and email address is (b)(6) @yahoo.com. They are flexible on timing!

Please keep us posted.

Thank you so much!

(b)(6)
Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs
Department of Veterans Affairs
(b)(6) (b)(6) – mobile
(b)(6) @va.gov

*** PRE-DECISIONAL ***-

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 9:43 AM
To: (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Capitol Tour

Hey (b)(6)

Thanks for calling about a Capitol tour for a constituent of ours. We are pretty tight on space tomorrow since we already have a tour at 2:00 and we do not have an intern right now. You can send over whichever email I can reach out to, and I'll see what I can do. They could also try reaching out to other Ohio offices as well to see if they have availability. But regardless, go on and send over a good email and I'll be in touch!

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Best,

(b)(6)

Rep. Troy Balderson | (OH-12)
(b)(6) (b)(6) Rayburn 2429

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Figueroa, John
Sent: Tue, 31 Mar 2026 15:06:38 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Subject: Re: Capitol Tour

No problem! (b)(6) was awesome!

John

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2026 9:38:22 AM
To: Figueroa, John (b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Capitol Tour

I apologize for my late reply, I was out of town this weekend and came back yesterday super backed up. On top of that my family was in so I was a little distracted for some time yesterday, so I do apologize for missing your email.

I thanked (b)(6) or handling the communication this morning, it was much appreciated. Again, I do apologize for my late reply, I hope you enjoyed both tours!

Best,
(b)(6)
Office of Congresswoman Sheri Biggs (SC-03)
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)

CONGRESSWOMAN
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From: Figueroa, John (b)(6) va.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2026 12:23 PM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: Capitol Tour

Here are the emails for the three adults if needed:

(b)(6) (b) @gmail.com
(b)(6) @msn.com
(b)(6) gmail.com

(b)(6)

Let me know if you need anything for the two Children.

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

Thanks again,

John

From: Figueroa, John
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2026 7:46 AM
To: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: Capitol Tour

(b)(6)

The tour last Friday was phenomenal! What do you need for the tour tomorrow for 3 adults and 2 children (ages 9 and 7) at 9:30am?

Thank you,

John

From: Figueroa, John
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 10:23 AM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: Capitol Tour

Thank you!

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 9:52 AM
To: Figueroa, John (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Capitol Tour

Great I just sent them their tour!

Best,

(b)(6)

Office of Congresswoman Sheri Biggs (SC-03)
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)

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AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

From: Figueroa, John (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Thursday, March 26, 2026 8:37 AM
To: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: Capitol Tour

Sorry, I forgot to confirm that yes this is for the Friday the 27th group.

John

From: Figueroa, John
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 3:35 PM
To (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: Capitol Tour

(b)(6) @gmail.com
(b)(6) gmail.com
(b)(6) @me.com

(b)(6)

Thank you!

John

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, March 25, 2026 2:15 PM
To: Figueroa, John (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Capitol Tour

Could you send me their email? For Friday the 27th correct?

Best,
(b)(6)
Office of Congresswoman Sheri Biggs (SC-03)
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)

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From: Figueroa, John (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2026 7:01 PM

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

To: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Subject: Re: Capitol Tour

(b)(6)

Thank you again for the confirmation on the 31st. I am hoping you may also have an opening for a tour for some friends that are visiting this Friday? It would be for 3 people.

Thank you,

John

From: Figueroa, John
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2026 1:30:33 PM
To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Subject: RE: Capitol Tour

No problem, looking forward to it!

John

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2026 9:24 AM
To: Figueroa, John (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Capitol Tour

Unfortunately it will not be private either as that time frame is super busy with tours since it is Spring break for so many schools.

Best,

(b)(6)

Office of Congresswoman Sheri Biggs (SC-03)
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)

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SHERI BIGGS
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E-NEWSLETTER

From: Figueroa, John <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2026 2:20 PM

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

To: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; Gartland, Lavin <(b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: Re: Capitol Tour

You can use my cell (b)(6) (b)(6)

If any of the 2pm slots are private, we can move to that, if not then yes it's fine.

Thank you very much!

John

From: (b)(6) mail.house.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2026 8:17:30 AM
To: Figueroa, John (b)(6) va.gov>; Gartland, Lavin <(b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Capitol Tour

I have you down for 9:30AM on the 31st, if you could confirm a good cell number for me that way I can connect you with the staffer leading your tour the morning of!

Also, unfortunately, we will need to combine your group with another group of 5 due to a high volume of requests that week.

Please let me know if you have any questions!

Best,
(b)(6)
Office of Congresswoman Sheri Biggs (SC-03)
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)

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SHERI BIGGS
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From: Figueroa, John <(b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2026 10:08 AM
To (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>; Gartland, Lavin <(b)(6) a.gov>
Subject: Re: Capitol Tour

9:30am on the 31st will be great!

Thank you!

AMERICAN OVERSIGHT

John

From: (b)(6) @mail.house.gov>
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2026 6:49:24 AM
To: Gartland, Lavin <(b)(6) va.gov>
Cc: Figueroa, John <(b)(6) va.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Capitol Tour

Good morning,

Apologies for delayed reply, I am following up on the tour request (b)(6) sent me!

I can accommodate your request for a tour the week of the 30th. I have an opening at:
The 31st 9:30 or 2PM
the 2nd at 11AM
the 2nd at 2PM

Please let me know which of these is more appealing and I will get it done!

Best,

(b)(6)
Office of Congresswoman Sheri Biggs (SC-03)
Office: (b)(6) (b)(6)

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