



Hearing on the Recommendations  
of the Department of Veterans' Affairs'  
Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services  
(CARES) Commission,  
and The Impact on Washington State Veterans



**“The State of VA Health Care in Washington State”**

Walla Walla, WA  
April 12, 2004

**WITNESS LIST**

**PANEL I**

- **Dr. Leslie Burger**, MD, Network Director, VISN 20  
Vancouver, WA
  - Accompanied by **Mr. Bruce Stewart**, Acting Director, Walla Walla VAMC,  
Walla Walla, WA
- **Mr. John King**, Director, State of Washington, Department of Veterans Affairs  
Olympia, WA
- **Mr. Jim Willis**, Director, State of Oregon, Department of Veterans Affairs, Salem, OR

**PANEL II**

- **Mr. Ron Fry**, State Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Washington  
Walla Walla, WA
- **Mr. Jim Grissom**, National Secretary, Vietnam Veterans of America  
Coeur d'Alene, ID
- **Mr. Lanny Myers**, State Commander, American Legion, Department of Washington  
Kettle Falls, WA
- **Mr. Lindsey Watchman**, Executive Assistant to the Executive Director, Confederated  
Tribes of the Umatilla, Pendleton, OR
- **Mr. Gary Pearson**, President, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Northwest Chapter  
Seattle, WA
  - Accompanied by **Mr. Craig Stewart**, Senior National Service Officer, Seattle,  
WA

**PANEL III**

- **The Honorable Greg Tompkins**, Chairman, Walla Walla County Council, Walla  
Walla, WA

- **The Honorable Jerry Cummins**, Councilman, City of Walla Walla  
Walla Walla, WA
- **Mr. Jim Kuntz**, Executive Director, Port of Walla Walla  
Walla Walla, WA
- **Mr. Dale Gehrke**, Chief Steward  
American Federation Of Government Employees, AFL-CIO, Local 181  
Walla Walla, WA
- **Mr. Morre Dean**, President, Adventist Hospital  
Walla Walla, WA