

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 18, 2008

George W. Bush
The President
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20500

Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Steny Hoyer
Majority Leader
H-107, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

John Boehner
Minority Leader
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Harry Reid
Senate Majority Leader
S-221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

Dear President Bush, Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader Hoyer, Minority Leader Boehner, Senate Majority Leader Reid, Senate Minority Leader McConnell,

Last year, disputes between the White House and new Majority Leadership in Congress on spending caused the delay of funding vital to our nation's veterans. Although legislation eventually passed providing a much needed increase in veterans funding, it came far too late costing our veterans \$18.5 million a day from October 1st through December 26th of 2007. We call upon your leadership to see that veterans funding be removed from the political infighting and gamesmanship that will inevitably occur over the Fiscal Year 2009 budget by passing veterans funding before September 30, 2008.

Veterans funding is not and should not be a partisan issue. Therefore, we should work together to make it clear that Congress takes its obligation to our nation's veterans seriously. Since 9/11 we have called on our soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines to keep us safe from terror. Their sacrifices now and in conflicts past are immeasurable; however, when they call upon us to uphold our promises to them as veterans, the Majority Leadership continues to fall short. This summer, we can join together and pass an appropriations bill that will honor our veterans' commitments and show our appreciation for their service.

If past tragedies such as the shock of inadequate care at Walter Reed Army Medical Center are to be avoided in the future, we must pass veterans funding on time. We must also never forget the sacrifices our veterans have made for us. As members of Congress, we have a solemn obligation to fulfill our promises to them. We ask you to look past the heightened partisanship of our times and unite on this issue by making it a first priority to bring a stand-alone veterans appropriations bill through regular order so we may pass Military Construction and Veterans' Affairs Appropriations bill no later than September 30, 2008.

We stand ready to assist you in this matter.

Sincerely,



Buttfield

Shelma Drake

Jim Jensen

Nichelle Bachman Phil English

Dan Denton

Michael T. McAl

~~_____~~

Randy Kuhl

Many Fallin

Shelley Moore Capto

Dee Walden

Paul Briggs

Jets Hoekstra

Mal Sander

Frank A. LoBriolo

John Rowan

Gary Bean-White

W. Delingrup

~~_____~~

Thomas Price

Tom Fesseny

Jo-Jo H

Grady Forbes

D. Binkert

Dan H. Hester

Jim Walling

Joe Wilson

Eric C. Puffer

Phil Ingrey

Steve Chabot

Sue Myrie

Randy Meekstun

Tom Tancredo

John Boozma

Marilyn Musgrave Jeff Miller

Gus M. O'Brien

T. Johnson

Bob D. Williams

Member Name	Contact Name	Title	Room
Rep. Steve Pearce	Scott McRoberts	LA	1607
Rep. Randy Kuhl	Paul Bleiberg	LA	1505
Rep. Tom Feeney	Erin Kanoy	LA	323
Rep. Sue Myrick	Andy Polk	LA	230
Rep. Phil English	Peter Sperry	LA	2332
Rep. Dan Burton	Brian Fauls	LD	2308
Rep. Michelle Bachman	Beau Rothschild	LA	412
Rep. G. K. Butterfield	Lee Lilley	LA	413
Rep. Michael McCaul	Alex Manning	LA	131
Rep. David Reichert	Jason Edgar	SLA	1223
Rep. Randy Neugebauer	Dan Hilton	SLA	429
Rep. James Sensenbrenner	Joshua Ledden	LA	2449
Rep. Adrian Smith	Beth Bremer	LA	503
Rep. Don Young	Thomas Ryan	LA	2111
Rep. Ginny Brown-Waite	Justin Grabelle	LA	414
Rep. Phil Gingrey	David Sours	LA	119
Rep. Joe Wilson	Allen Aimar	MLA	212
Rep. Tom Tancredo	Stephen Beck	LA	1131
Rep. Randy Forbes	Michelle Johnson	LA	307
Rep. Robert Wittman	Brad Harrison	LA	1123
Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen	Steve	LA	2442
Rep. Jeff Miller	Elby Godwin	LA	1535
Rep. Peter King	Carol Danko	LA	339
Rep. Tom Price	Kris Skrzycki	LA	424
Rep. Jon Porter	George Harper	LA	218
Rep. Steve Chabot	Anna Rack	LA	129
Rep. Mark Souder	Adam Howard	LA	2231
Rep. Gus Bilirakis	Rebecca Hyder	CoS	1630
Rep. Frank LoBiondo	Lance Seibenhener	LA	2427
Rep. Tim Walberg	Matthew Mika	SLA	325
Rep. Darrell Issa	Veronica Wong	LA	211
Rep. John Boozman	Toni-Marie Calabrese	LA	1519
Rep. John Mica	Michael Willis	LA	2313
Rep. Peter Hoekstra	Katherine Haley	LA	2234
Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart	Lauren Robitaille	LD	328
Rep. Marilyn Musgrave	Shauna Cristensen	LA	1507
Rep. Greg Walden	Lauren Flynn	LA	1210
Rep. Mary Fallin	Michelle Altman	LA	1432
Rep. Shelly Moore Capito	Curran Johnston	LA	1431
Rep. Peter Roskam	Dean Thompson	LA	507
Rep. Michael Burgess	Matthew Johnson	LA	1224
Rep. Jeb Hensarling	Kyle Jackson	SLA	132
Rep. Thelman Drake	Benjamin Schultz	LA	1208
Rep. Tim Johnson	Bobby Fredrick	LA	1207