



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4204

September 4, 2003

Chairman Edward Alvarez
CARES Commission
810 Vermont Avenue, NW (00CARES)
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Chairman Alvarez:

I am writing to strongly support the establishment of a new Veterans Administration Healthcare Clinic in Rockwood, located in Roane County Tennessee.

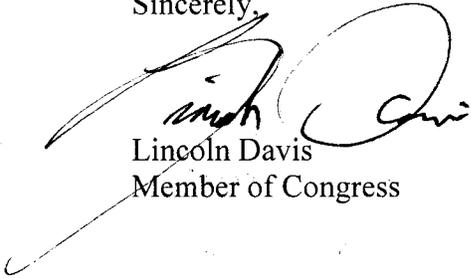
It is my understanding that there is appropriate space set aside for such a clinic at no cost to the federal taxpayer. The space I cite is available in the same building that currently houses the Roane County Health Department.

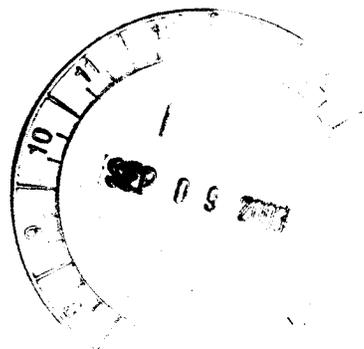
It is unfair to the Veterans in my district and across the nation to have to travel great distances to receive routine health care that they are entitled to by the Veterans Administration Health Care system. It is bad enough that the VA Health Care system is woefully under funded year after year, while at the same time the rolls of eligible veterans are growing faster than the most liberal of projections.

Finally, the establishment of a new VA Clinic in Rockwood Tennessee would provide employment opportunities for local Medical Doctors, Health Care professionals, administrative staff, and others.

I strongly urge you to approve funding for this important project in my district, and I am available to discuss this matter with you at any time. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 202-225-6831.

Sincerely,


Lincoln Davis
Member of Congress



LD:nl

WILLIAM L. JENKINS
1ST DISTRICT, TENNESSEE



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AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4201
September 9, 2003

Mr. Richard Larson
Executive Director
CARES Commission
810 Vermont Avenue Northwest
00 CARES
Washington, D.C. 20420

Dear Director Larson:

I appreciate the opportunity to submit this statement for the record for the Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 9 Public Field Hearing in Nashville. I want to take this opportunity to recognize the quality of care and service provided by the James H. Quillen Veterans Administration Medical Center in Mountain Home, now celebrating its 100th year of service. I want to stress the importance of this facility to our Nation's veterans and the continued need for its full funding.

In addition, I would like to voice my support for the proposal to place the Knoxville VA Outpatient Clinic under the Quillen VAMC as well as support for an increased number of community based outpatient clinics in the area. These proposals will improve access to healthcare service for our Veterans and are beneficial to the communities they serve.

Sincerely yours,

William L. Jenkins, M.C.

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ZACH WAMP
CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
THIRD DISTRICT, TENNESSEE

August 28, 2003

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Mr. Edward Alvarez
Chairman
CARES Commission
810 Vermont Avenue NW
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Dear Edward:

It has recently come to my attention that the Veterans Outpatient Clinic planned for Roane County has temporarily been halted. For the past two years, my staff and I have worked closely with county staff and veterans leaders to plan for and position Roane County as a premiere site for this clinic. I fully support the MidSouth Health Care Network recommendation for a primary care clinic to be located Roane County and strongly encourage the Veterans Administration to reconsider this plan.

The Roane County Outpatient Clinic will serve a rural 10-county region with over 75,000 veterans currently underserved by the Veterans Administration. Roane County recognized this serious need and "stepped up to the plate" to face this challenge when they acquired a state-of-the-art health facility in Rockwood, Tennessee. This building serves primarily as a county health clinic, but Roane County has set aside a portion of this building to be dedicated to our veterans. This space will be available at **no charge** to the Veterans Administration for an outpatient clinic.

The CARES Commission is holding a public hearing in Nashville on September 10, 2003, and I am requesting that you submit this letter of support on Roane County's behalf. I urge your strong consideration of the merit of this proposal and work that has already taken place in order to serve our veterans.

Warmest regards,


Zach Wamp
Member of Congress

Please do not mail letters to my DC office. Problems with anthrax have made mail delivery unreliable. You may conveniently email me at www.house.gov/wamp. Or send your letter to one of my district offices.

<http://www.house.gov/wamp/>

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