



**THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON**

May 7, 2018

The Honorable David P. Roe, MD
Chairman
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Consistent with my letters to you on April 9 and April 26, 2018, this letter serves as final notification that available funding for the Veterans Choice Program (VCP), established by the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, Public Law 113-146, as amended (Choice Act), will be exhausted as early as May 31, 2018. Once this occurs, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will be unable to create new referrals or authorizations under this program. This will have a dramatic, negative impact on our Veteran population.

More than 1.9 million unique Veterans have received care through VCP since its implementation. Challenges associated with transitioning from VCP to other care programs should not be underestimated. Other community care programs will not have the capacity to handle all of the patients who will transition from VCP, and the wait time for appointments at VA facilities will rise if large numbers of Veterans return to VA to seek care. As a result, we can expect decreased access to care, damaged community partnerships, and interrupted care continuity for Veterans.

My highest priority is working with you to avoid any service disruptions for our Veterans. I know that Congress continues to work on bipartisan legislation that would establish a permanent successor to VCP, as well as to secure funding to avoid program and service disruptions. I wholeheartedly support these efforts and stand ready to assist. Please contact me directly should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert L. Wilkie".

Robert L. Wilkie
Acting



**THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON**

May 7, 2018

The Honorable Tim Walz
Ranking Member
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Walz:

Consistent with my letters to you on April 9 and April 26, 2018, this letter serves as final notification that available funding for the Veterans Choice Program (VCP), established by the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, Public Law 113-146, as amended (Choice Act), will be exhausted as early as May 31, 2018. Once this occurs, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will be unable to create new referrals or authorizations under this program. This will have a dramatic, negative impact on our Veteran population.

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May 7, 2018

The Honorable Johnny Isakson
Chairman
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Consistent with my letters to you on April 9 and April 26, 2018, this letter serves as final notification that available funding for the Veterans Choice Program (VCP), established by the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, Public Law 113-146, as amended (Choice Act), will be exhausted as early as May 31, 2018. Once this occurs, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will be unable to create new referrals or authorizations under this program. This will have a dramatic, negative impact on our Veteran population.

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**THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
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May 7, 2018

The Honorable Jon Tester
Ranking Member
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Congressman Tester:

Consistent with my letters to you on April 9 and April 26, 2018, this letter serves as final notification that available funding for the Veterans Choice Program (VCP), established by the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, Public Law 113-146, as amended (Choice Act), will be exhausted as early as May 31, 2018. Once this occurs, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will be unable to create new referrals or authorizations under this program. This will have a dramatic, negative impact on our Veteran population.

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**THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
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May 7, 2018

The Honorable Charlie Dent
Chairman
Subcommittee on Military Construction,
Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Consistent with my letters to you on April 9 and April 26, 2018, this letter serves as final notification that available funding for the Veterans Choice Program (VCP), established by the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, Public Law 113-146, as amended (Choice Act), will be exhausted as early as May 31, 2018. Once this occurs, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will be unable to create new referrals or authorizations under this program. This will have a dramatic, negative impact on our Veteran population.

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THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

May 7, 2018

The Honorable Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Military Construction,
Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Wasserman Schultz:

Consistent with my letters to you on April 9 and April 26, 2018, this letter serves as final notification that available funding for the Veterans Choice Program (VCP), established by the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, Public Law 113-146, as amended (Choice Act), will be exhausted as early as May 31, 2018. Once this occurs, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will be unable to create new referrals or authorizations under this program. This will have a dramatic, negative impact on our Veteran population.

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**THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
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May 7, 2018

The Honorable John Boozman
Chairman
Subcommittee on Military Construction,
Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

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**THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
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May 7, 2018

The Honorable Brian Schatz
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Military Construction,
Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

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