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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2306

December 21, 2015

The Honorable Robert A. McDonald
Secretary of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Secretary McDonald:

We are writing to bring your personal attention to recent media reports about the St. Cloud VA Health Care System. Several local media outlets have reported concerns about patient access and care, workplace culture, facility operations and construction contracting.

We urge you to visit the St. Cloud VA Health Care System as soon as possible to reassure the employees and the thousands of veterans they serve of your commitment to providing a healthy and productive workplace for which to deliver the highest quality medical care.

The St. Cloud community would value and appreciate your visit. Minnesotans, especially those in and around the St. Cloud area, have long expressed great pride in the St. Cloud VA Health Care System and its mission to serve veterans. The medical center has been serving veterans since 1924 and now proudly delivers care to more than 37,000 veterans in our region. The St. Cloud facility offers primary and specialty care, mental health care, surgical and specialty care, urgent care, acute psychiatric care, telemedicine, extended care and rehabilitation, imaging, laboratory and pharmacy services.

We are encouraged that management and labor at the facility recently agreed to voluntarily work together with facilitation and training conducted by the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service to strengthen workplace relationships. Building upon this recent development, we believe your personal attention to this situation is necessary, and will have a positive, productive and lasting impact on the facility's dedicated employees, patients and their families.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

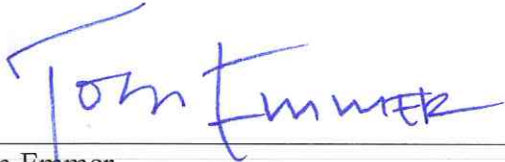
Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515



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