

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 4, 2023

The Honorable Denis McDonough  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Secretary McDonough:

As you are aware, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) issued a press release falsely stating that the proposal which became the *Limit, Save, Grow Act* would threaten medical care for 30 million veterans, worsen wait times for hundreds of thousands of veterans and survivors applying for benefits, and fail to honor the memory of all veterans.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Secretary, the Department's assertions are dishonest and shameless. The facts are that nowhere in the *Limit, Save, Grow Act* is it indicated that the VA budget would be cut. The intent of the legislation is to set a topline number for the entire federal budget. Furthermore, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Kevin McCarthy, Majority Leader Steve Scalise, Chairwoman for the House Committee on Appropriations Kay Granger, Chairman for the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Mike Bost, and others have all stated unequivocally that veterans will be protected, and the VA will be funded. The leaders of the Congressional bodies that oversee and fund the VA have all firmly stated that veterans' earned care and benefits are not on the table. The VA purposely chose to ignore these facts in favor of baseless political talking points.

Many members of Congress are deeply troubled and personally offended that the Biden Administration continues to use these dishonest talking points to create panic and fear in our veteran populations. The VA's mission is to care for our veterans who have borne the battle. Our veterans made great sacrifices so that we may have the privilege to live freely in this great Nation. They did not make those sacrifices to be a talking point for a political party's gain. They did not sacrifice themselves so they could be used as a pawn to create fear and anxiety among their fellow veterans. Political games have absolutely no place in the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Sincerely,

  
Jen A. Kiggans  
Member of Congress

  
Derrick Van Orden  
Member of Congress

<sup>1</sup> "Budget Cut Proposals Would Hurt Veterans," Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, Department of Veterans Affairs, April 21, 2023, <https://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=5874>

  
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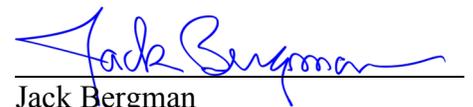
  
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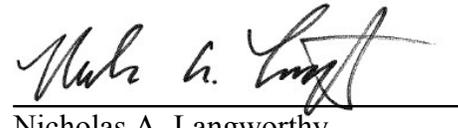
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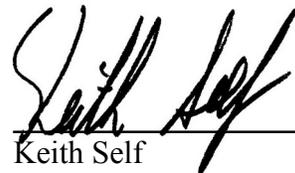
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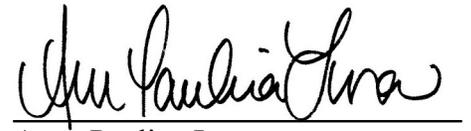
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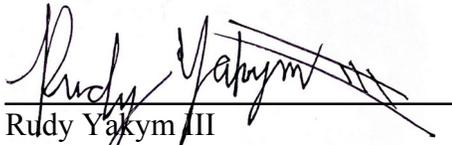
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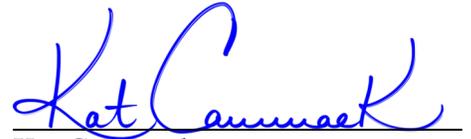
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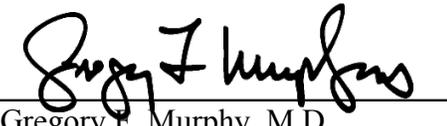
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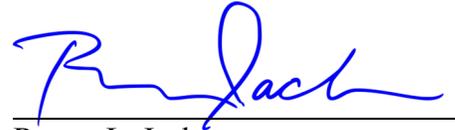


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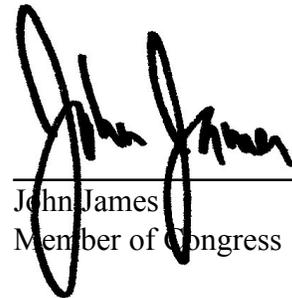
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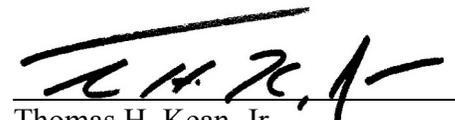
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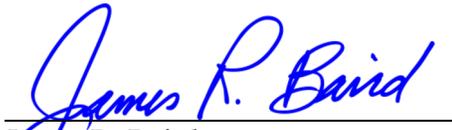
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