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COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

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WASHINGTON, DC 20515

<http://veterans.house.gov>

July 14, 2015

The President of the United States of America
 The White House
 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
 Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I write to ask that you become personally involved in what has been described by officials at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as a Fiscal Year 2015 budget shortfall that, without Congressional action within the next three weeks, may lead to "shutting down hospital operations during August 2015."

The seriousness of the shortfall was most recently articulated in a July 13, 2015, letter to me from VA Deputy Secretary Sloan Gibson, the latest in a series of belated warnings about VA's fiscal condition that may never have come to light had the Committee not convened a hearing on the matter on June 25. With each passing day I grow ever more concerned that the consequences of inaction have not been forcefully articulated to the Congress or the American public by the person who is most able to raise the issue to the forefront of debate and action—namely, you, as our Commander-in-Chief.

I have expressed a willingness to work with my Republican and Democratic colleagues on a solution so that veterans don't pay the price for VA mismanagement. That said, I implore you to also get involved and lead. VA's central office is physically located steps from the White House front door. I strongly suggest you pay a visit and get to the bottom of what is happening. If this is truly a crisis threatening VA hospital operations then the President should be sounding the alarm. Just as your words matter, so does your silence. America's veterans need your personal engagement on this potential crisis.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my request.

Sincerely,



JEFF MILLER
 Chairman

CJM/jt