

Joint Letter

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

March 15, 1984

Mr. Harry N. Walters
Administrator of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20420

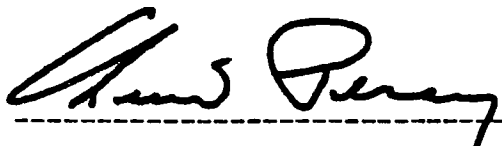
Dear Mr. Walters:

The demographics of the Illinois veteran population will be changing dramatically over the next ten years. Although the total veteran population will decline, it is projected that the group of veterans 65 years or older will more than double its 1980 level. The changing profile of the veteran population will place new demands on the Veterans Administration. In medical district 17, the Chicago area, the VA projects that the need for long-term nursing care beds will increase from the current level of 863 to over 2290 in 1995. In medical district 23, covering west central Illinois, preliminary findings by the VA also indicate a similar increased need for long-term and out-patient care. The need for acute care and domiciliary facilities will also skyrocket.

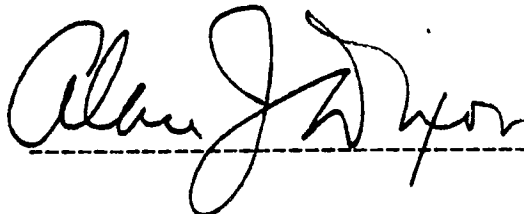
In view of this growing need, we, the members of the Illinois delegation, request that the Veterans Administration send an inspection team to two facilities that are presently state mental health centers, at Manteno and Galesburg. The purpose of this inspection would be to assess the suitability of the two facilities for Veterans Administration use for acute care or long-term nursing and domiciliary homes. Both Manteno and Galesburg are scheduled to be closed by the state for budgetary reasons over the next two years, and would be ideally suited for conversion to use by the Veterans Administration.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. For further information contact David Stowe with Congressman Madigan (225-2371) or Meredith McGehee with Congressman Evans (225-5905).

Sincerely,









George O'Brien

Johnny R. Yates

Henry J. Hyde

Albin A. A. A.

Don Poststok

Gus Savage

William A. Lisinski

John K.

Don Crane

Albin J. Dixon

Paul M.

Doc Dubin

Lynn Martin

Harry Cass

W. O. M. G. G. G.

Frank Amunzio

John A. A. A.

Robert H. H. H.
