

## Health Care Befitting Our Heroes



I spoke to veterans at a recent round table in Hibbing about improving access to health care close to home, strengthening mental health care programs, and expanding access to chiropractic care through the VA.

Our veterans are America's heroes, and heroes deserve (1) access to care close to home, without having to travel long distances,(2) access to the best mental health care we can provide, with no limits based on when symptoms of illnesses such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) manifest themselves, and (3) timely consideration and processing of their benefits claims. In summary, that's the [message I've just conveyed in a letter to my colleagues](#) on the House-Senate conference committee ironing out the final version of the Veteran Access to Care Act of 2014.

The bill contains important and long-overdue improvements to greatly reduce waits for appointments and expand access to care to accommodate the huge influx of veterans from the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. Special thanks to all the veterans and family members who attended my recent series of veterans round tables in Duluth, Brainerd, Little Falls, and Hibbing. Watch for more veterans round tables in your area of Minnesota's 8th Congressional District in the weeks ahead.