

**March 14, 2007**

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address Walter Reed and this government's obligation to America's heroes.

On Monday, I toured Walter Reed. My first impression is that one visit is not enough.

I will make several more trips to the facility to speak with patients and staff about what they need and how we can best address this unacceptable situation.

Mr. Speaker, our nation's finest deserve the finest medical care - plain and simple!!!

This Friday, I will continue my tour of local VA facilities, when I visit the James A. Haley VA Hospital. This is one of the largest VA facilities in the country and serves many veterans in my district.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a Democrat or Republican problem, this is America's problem and it requires a bipartisan solution.

I urge my colleagues to work together to quickly address and resolve this situation.

God bless our troops and veterans - they truly are America's heroes.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I yield back the balance of my time.

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