

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 11, 2023

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

Dear Secretary McDonough:

Under your leadership, the Department of Veterans Affairs recently issued a press release falsely claiming that the *Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023* would “cut a broad range of critical programs” for veterans. This is a shameful use of scare tactics and a blatant attempt to mislead millions of veterans across our nation. The truth is not a single provision in this legislation even mentions veterans’ benefits. In fact, many Members of Congress who voted in support of this legislation are veterans. Your department’s press release presents yet another attempt by the Biden Administration to despicably fear-monger the American people, and we demand its immediate retraction and correction.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, House Republicans’ *Limit, Save, Grow Act* would reduce the projected deficit over the next decade. The largest component of this reduction would come from reducing discretionary outlay by \$3.1945 trillion.¹ However, as you know, Veterans Affairs compensation, education benefits, and home loan programs are all mandatory spending — not discretionary spending. Moreover, countless Republican leaders, including Speaker McCarthy and Majority Leader Scalise, have assured that there will be no cuts to veterans’ healthcare. Additionally, following the passage of the *Limit, Save, Grow Act*, the House Appropriations Committee Chairwoman, Rep. Kay Granger, stated that, “We will also find ways to reduce spending without impacting our national defense, our commitment to veterans, or the services that Americans depend on.”²

Not only is your press release inaccurate, but it is also an attempt by the Biden Administration to deflect from acknowledging the devastating consequences that Democrats’ rampant spending has had on our veterans. Sadly, veterans have been some of the hardest hit by skyrocketing inflation.

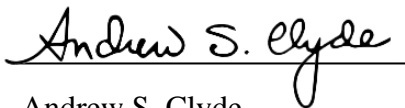
¹Congressional Budget Office. (2023, April 25). *Re CBO’s Estimate of the Budgetary Effects of H.R. 2811, the Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023*. Retrieved from https://www.cbo.gov/system/files/2023-04/59102-Arrington-Letter_LSG%20Act_4-25-2023.pdf

²House Committee on Appropriations. (2023, May 22). Granger on Spending: “Something Needs to Change.” Retrieved from <https://appropriations.house.gov/news/press-releases/granger-spending-something-needs-change>

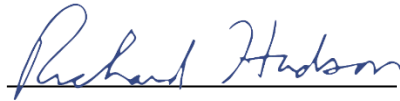
According to a recent survey, more than 80% of disabled veterans said that rising costs created financial hardship for their families and 64% stated they could not make ends meet at some point over the last 12 months.³

We are deeply disappointed that your department and the Biden Administration would make flagrantly false statements while your own policies are driving hardships for veterans. America's veterans will not be gaslighted by the Biden Administration, and the Members of Congress who voted to pass the *Limit, Save, Grow Act of 2023* will not be cowed into allowing these egregious lies to go unchecked. We are resolute in reining in Washington's out-of-control spending, and we are committed to do so in a responsible manner that protects those who put their lives on the line to defend our precious freedoms. Therefore, we demand that you immediately remove the press release titled "Budget Cut Proposals Would Hurt Veterans" published on April 21, 2023, and issue an apology to our veterans for intentionally creating undue fear and anxiety in order to advance a false and sinister narrative for political gain.

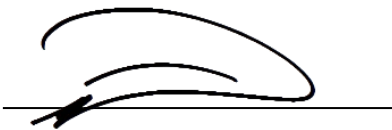
Sincerely,



Andrew S. Clyde
Member of Congress



Richard Hudson
Member of Congress

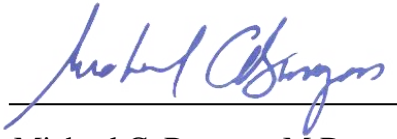


Scott DesJarlais, M.D.
Member of Congress

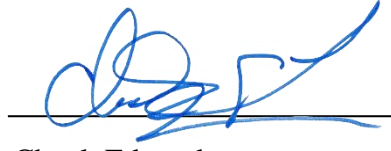


Ralph Norman
Member of Congress

³Shane, L. (2023, February 22). MilitaryTimes. Inflation Woes Caused Major Financial Issues for Wounded Vets in 2022. Retrieved from <https://www.militarytimes.com/veterans/2023/02/22/inflation-woes-caused-major-financial-issues-for-wounded-vets-in-2022/#:~:text=Of%20the%20roughly%2019%2C000%20veterans,chief%20program%20officer%20for%20WWP>



Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
Member of Congress



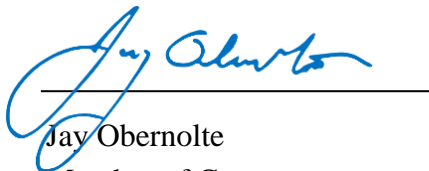
Chuck Edwards
Member of Congress



Rich McCormick, M.D., M.B.A.
Member of Congress



Eric Burlison
Member of Congress



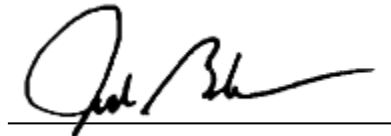
Jay Obernolte
Member of Congress



Nancy Mace
Member of Congress



Diana Harshbarger
Member of Congress



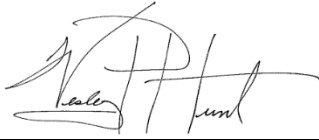
Josh Brecheen
Member of Congress



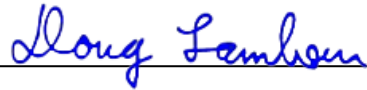
Eli Crane
Member of Congress



Andy Harris, M.D.
Member of Congress



Wesley Hunt
Member of Congress



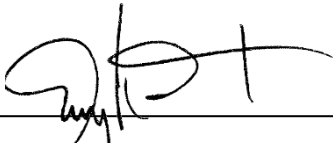
Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress



Mary E. Miller
Member of Congress



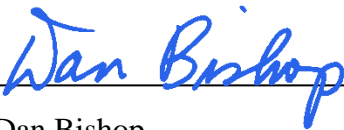
Bob Good
Member of Congress



Anthony D'Esposito
Member of Congress



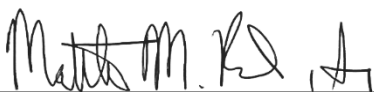
Scott Perry
Member of Congress



Dan Bishop
Member of Congress



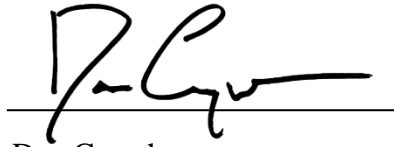
Marjorie Taylor Greene
Member of Congress



Matt M. Rosendale, Sr.
Member of Congress



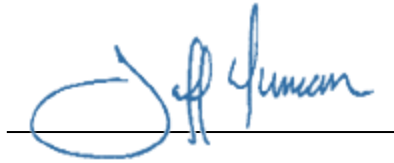
Lauren Boebert
Member of Congress



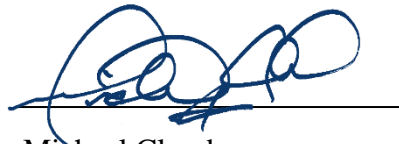
Dan Crenshaw
Member of Congress



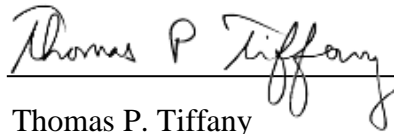
Russ Fulcher
Member of Congress



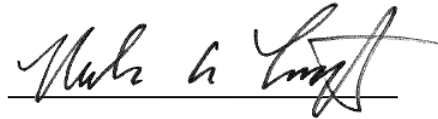
Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



Michael Cloud
Member of Congress



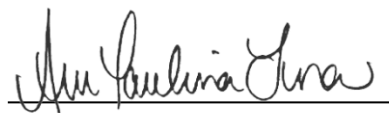
Thomas P. Tiffany
Member of Congress



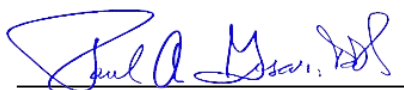
Nick Langworthy
Member of Congress



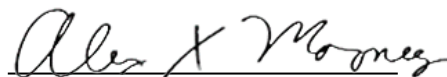
Andy Ogles
Member of Congress



Anna Paulina Luna
Member of Congress



Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



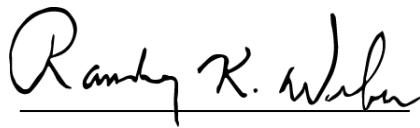
Alex Mooney
Member of Congress



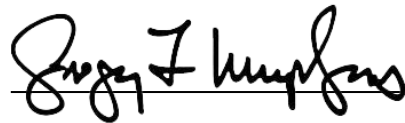
Kelly Armstrong
Member of Congress



Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



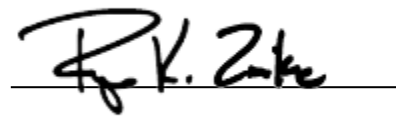
Randy K. Weber
Member of Congress



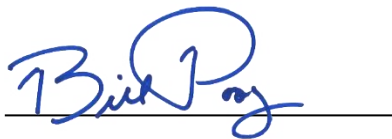
Gregory F. Murphy, M.D.
Member of Congress



Guy Reschenthaler
Member of Congress



Ryan Zinke
Member of Congress



Bill Posey
Member of Congress



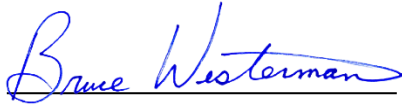
Tim Walberg
Member of Congress



Warren Davidson
Member of Congress



Monica De La Cruz
Member of Congress



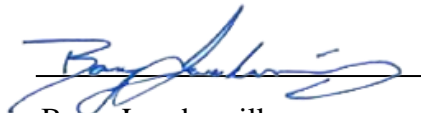
Bruce Westerman
Member of Congress



Cliff Bentz
Member of Congress



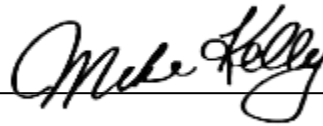
Rick W. Allen
Member of Congress



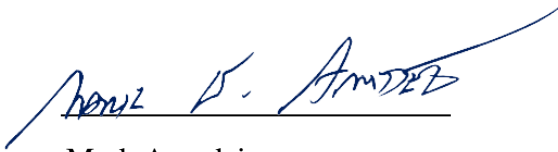
Barry Loudermilk
Member of Congress



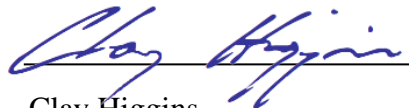
Andy Biggs
Member of Congress



Mike Kelly
Member of Congress



Mark Amodei
Member of Congress



Clay Higgins
Member of Congress



Chip Roy
Member of Congress



Jeff Van Drew
Member of Congress



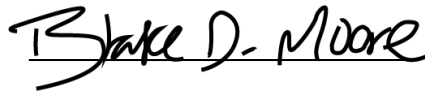
August Pfluger
Member of Congress



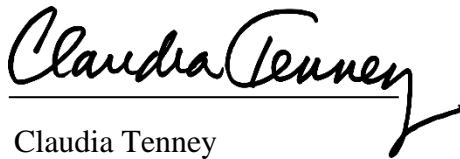
A. Drew Ferguson, IV D.M.D.
Member of Congress



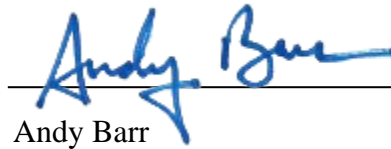
Russell Fry
Member of Congress



Blake Moore
Member of Congress



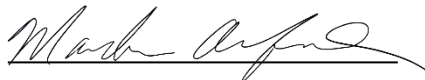
Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress



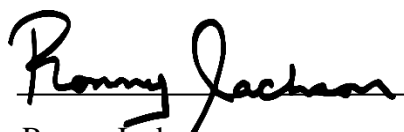
Andy Barr
Member of Congress



Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



Mark Alford
Member of Congress



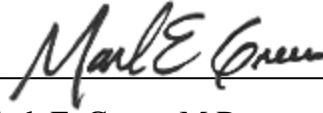
Ronny Jackson
Member of Congress



Tracey Mann
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of Glenn Grothman in blue ink, enclosed in a light blue rectangular box.

Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of Mark E. Green in black ink, positioned above a horizontal line.

Mark E. Green, M.D.
Member of Congress