

United States Senate

June 14, 2023

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chairwoman
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Military Construction,
Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Boozman
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Military Construction,
Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairwoman Murray and Ranking Member Boozman:

I write to request the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies include in Fiscal Year 2024 (FY24) appropriations robust funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs' State Home Grant Construction Program to support the needed expansion of the Southwest Montana Veterans Home in Butte, Montana.

The Southwest Montana Veterans Home (SWMVH) opened its doors in 2021 and currently provides state of the art homelike care where veterans enjoy living on site with access to a shared community center featuring a large multipurpose room; a therapy gym that offers physical, occupational and speech therapies; as well as outpatient care and a medical exam room. This unique style of care is more than just a place to call home, it is somewhere veterans can come to get the help they need while providing an avenue to share their stories and be understood by their fellow veterans. Due to increasing demand, additional funding is needed to enable the SWMVH to accommodate veterans in the community by expanding the number of available beds.

This new approach to health care has shown to be both successful and popular amongst the veteran community. SWMVH provides a sense of independence and the opportunity for veterans to help veterans. This is quality investment for the federal government and I encourage the committee to support this program in this year's appropriations package.

Sincerely,



Steve Daines
United States Senator