The American Legion

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OFFICE OF THE
NATIONAL COMMANDER

June 20, 2017

The Honorable Clay Higgins
1711 Longworth Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Higgins:

On behalf of the over 2.2 million members of The American Legion, we express support for H.R. 1942. This bill would direct the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an audit of the Veterans Health Administration's budget.

Oversight and accountability of the Veterans Health Administration is a primary concern of The American Legion. Requiring the Comptroller General of the United States to conduct an audit of the Veteran Health Administration would not only help in reducing financial waste but also allow for better tools in identifying deficiencies. Our recommendation is to require the Veterans Health Administration to disseminate the findings with various veteran service organizations after a completed audit. A roundtable on the results will allow veteran service organizations to better focus their policy priorities and how to best assist the VA with oversight and accountability.

According to The American Legion's Resolution No. 1,: *Department of Veterans Affairs Quadrennial Plan for Budget*, which passed during The American Legion National Convention in 2016, The American Legion supports this draft legislation allowing the Veterans Health Administration better tools to recognize shortfalls and discrepancies to adjust Department of Veterans' Affairs' budget. Therefore, The American Legion supports H.R. 1942, as written, and applauds your leadership in addressing this issue facing our nation's veterans.

For God & Country,

Charles E. Schmidt

CHARLES E. SCHMIDT
National Commander