



May 4th, 2016

The Honorable Beto O'Rourke
House of Representatives
1330 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Vet Connect

Dear Congressman O'Rourke,

The American Military Retirees Association writes to thank you for your leadership regarding your "Vet Connect" amendment. Vet Connect will allow for the sharing of VA medical records with non-VA health care providers and will promote continuity of care and ease cumbersome administrative requirements which often delay necessary health care for our veterans.

As the VA continues to outsource routine care to non-VA providers, it becomes increasingly important to ensure that those providers have as much information as possible regarding the health history of a veteran so that he or she may make the most informed choices possible with regard to the care management of a veteran.

Currently, the VA is not allowed to share any part of a veterans medical records without written consent and this causes lengthy delays in a non-VA provider's ability to treat a veteran.

Your amendment will end needless delays for our veterans and will provide health care professionals with efficient access to complete health care records in order to facilitate timely and accurate health care decisions.

We salute your efforts and leadership in addressing this important issue. We are pleased to support your amendment and we would like you to know that you have our continued thanks. Please feel free to contact us regarding this and any issue affecting veterans, retirees, their families, and their surviving spouses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ted Painter".

Ted Painter
National Legislative Director