

United States Senate

December 7, 2021

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

Dear Secretary McDonough,

I am writing to offer my full support for the Veterans Affairs (VA) Montana Healthcare System's request to add additional space for physical therapy and chiropractic services at or near the new Bozeman Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) currently under construction.

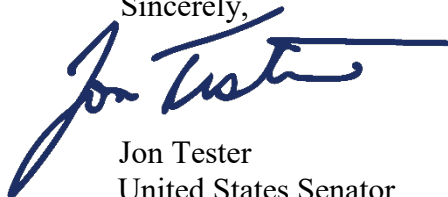
In June of 2020, VA signed a lease to secure new space for a clinic in Bozeman, Montana. This new space, which is scheduled to open in March of 2022, is expected to be 12,000 square feet—twice the size of the existing clinic—and will offer Primary Care, Behavioral Health, Laboratory, and Telehealth services to veterans. I was proud to secure funding for this facility and help ensure the project moves to completion.

In the time since the lease was awarded, VA Montana officials determined there is an opportunity to offer physical therapy and chiropractic services at or near the new location. These are services in high demand from veterans and providing them under one roof, together with the other planned services, would further facilitate convenient and patient-centered care delivery in one location.

I recognize such an addition of space and services requires review and approval from Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 19 and then VA's Strategic Capital Investment Planning (SCIP) process, as well as any relevant contracting actions. I request that these important reviews be conducted in a timely manner, consistent with all rules and regulations, so that a decision can be reached in the near future potentially allowing these expanded services for veterans to be in place in 2022.

Thank you for your attention to this request and I look forward to continuing to work with you on behalf of Montana and the nation's veterans.

Sincerely,



Jon Tester
United States Senator