

ROBERT P. CASEY, JR.
PENNSYLVANIA

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JOINT ECONOMIC

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 1, 2017

The Honorable Johnny Isakson
Chairman
Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs
412 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jon Tester
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs
412 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Isakson and Ranking Member Tester:

I write to express my support for the nomination of Dr. David Shulkin, a fellow Pennsylvanian, to be the Secretary of Veterans Affairs. I regret that I cannot attend the hearing today due to scheduling conflicts to voice my support for Dr. Shulkin in person.

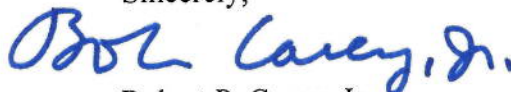
Dr. Shulkin will bring significant experience to this office. He has extensive experience as a physician and hospital administrator for more than twenty years. As VA Under Secretary of Health, Dr. Shulkin has proven his ability to lead the largest integrated health system in the United States and his willingness to make changes needed to improve the VA.

As Under Secretary of Health, Dr. Shulkin demonstrated his ability to drive positive and necessary reform at the VA. There is still much more work to be done - from ending the disability claims and appeals backlog to increasing access to the best mental health care. It is clear that the challenges facing the VA are enormous.

It is crucial that the VA Secretary is committed and passionate about taking care of our Veterans. Our Veterans and their families have sacrificed greatly for our country, and they deserve nothing less than the highest quality care and services that they have earned.

I support Dr. Shulkin, and I urge his confirmation. I look forward to working with him in this important role.

Sincerely,



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator