



Dr. James Craig J.D., Ed.D
18784 E. Burlington Pl
Denver, CO 80249
720-737-3686

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Honorable Senator Cory Gardner

Ref: S. 450, the Veterans Improved Access and Care Act of 2019

We at the UVC are regularly confronted by veterans who are pleased with VA but are concerned by the lengthy process necessary to fill empty café giver positions. The capability for VA medical centers and clinics to bring qualified applicants on board as necessary health care providers is compromised by an overburdened application process, which hinders VA's ability to hire properly vetted licensed medical staff.

The current onboarding process prevents expedient hiring which places VA at a disadvantage in competitive health care environments. We at the UVC would like to congratulate Senator Gardner for sponsoring S450 and Representatives Tipton and Crow as well as all other sponsors/co-sponsors on both sides of the isles whose bipartisan/bicameral efforts will create pilot projects in at least 10 VA medical facilities allowing for an evaluation of the current hiring process leading to proposed solutions to expedite VA's ability to hire sorely needed health care providers.

With your efforts, the future for our VA and our veterans is surely to be bright.

Respectfully submitted;

Dr. James Craig J.D., Ed.D
President UVC