



COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO
PUERTO RICO FEDERAL AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATION

March 31, 2014

The Honorable Bernard Sanders
Chairman
Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs
412 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-6050

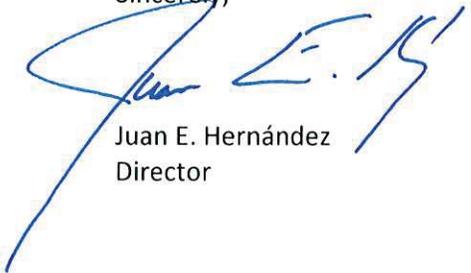
Dear Chairman Sanders,

I write you today in support of a proposal to replace and dramatically expand a Veterans Affairs outpatient facility in Ponce, Puerto Rico. This proposal would allow the VA to enhance the services provided to veterans in the area. I am thankful that this proposal has been included within the Department of Veterans Affairs budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2015 as well as in legislation you have introduced during this session of Congress.

The Ponce outpatient clinic project would double the size of the current outpatient clinic facility. The project would expand services offered to include comprehensive mental health services, surgery, laboratory, pharmacy, radiology, an eye clinic, prosthetics, speech pathology, chemotherapy, gastroenterology, and imaging to the services offered at the current VA facility. These added services are necessary to address the evolving set of health needs facing the modern warfighter.

Thank you again for your support of this project. As the Washington representative for the Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, I look forward to working with you on this project as it moves forward.

Sincerely,



Juan E. Hernández
Director