

Knowing your interest in veterans' issues, I wanted to make you aware that the Department of Veterans Affairs has recently announced plans to expand health care services for North State veterans in Siskiyou and Yuba Counties. In Siskiyou County, the VA is pursuing a potential contract with a local medical provider in the Yreka area to provide primary care services to local veterans. The VA plans to issue a request for proposal in early February with proposals due in early March of this year. Additionally, the VA plans to open a new outpatient clinic in Yuba City. This clinic will be one of four new VA health facilities to open in California in 2010.

This expansion of services to some of our local communities will be of great help to many North State veterans, sparing them the time and expense of driving long distances to receive primary medical care, and allowing for better preventative care and easier follow-ups for veterans with chronic health problems. I am pleased that the VA is expanding services in Northern California, and will continue to work to ensure that our veterans receive high quality and accessible health care.