

Senator Brown's Letterhead

November 10, 2014

House Appropriations Committee
2015 Session

Re: Veteran outreach

Dear Committee Members,

The interim committee of the State Administration & Veterans' Affairs has held multiple listening sessions and panels regarding veteran outreach needs across Montana. The rural nature of our state, along with the second highest veteran percentage (per population) in the U.S. compels us to address some ongoing needs to serve our veterans and their families more efficiently.

There is need for more outreach officers at each of the state veteran service offices and a growing need to establish an office in Glasgow. This office would relieve the burdens on both the Havre and Miles City offices and provide a needed service closer to the Native American populations in the area.

As you fine tune the state's budget we hope you will consider the veteran needs we've outlined and prioritize the Glasgow center for funding consideration. Adding outreach personnel would be the second highest priority.

Thanks for your consideration for veteran outreach in Montana. We can never forget the sacrifices they and their families have made and would appreciate your approval of the added funding.

Sincerely,