

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

May 21, 2008

The Honorable Daniel Akaka
U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs
412 Russell Senate Building
Washington D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Burr
U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs
412 Russell Senate Building
Washington D.C. 20510

The Honorable Bob Filner
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs
335 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steve Buyer
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs
333 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen Akaka and Filner and Ranking Members Burr and Buyer:

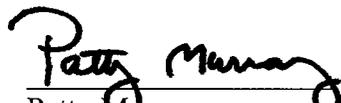
We are writing in strong support of S. 1344 and H.R. 2245, legislation to name the new Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in Wenatchee in honor of Washington state veteran Elwood "Bud" Link.

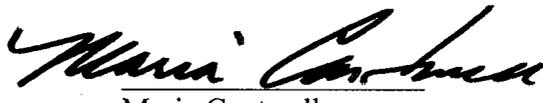
Bud Link served in World War II and was an active member of the local Cashmere Veterans of Foreign Wars post. He was a dedicated advocate for increased "hometown health care" and worked tirelessly to secure a new veterans outpatient clinic for North Central Washington. Bud continued his efforts to garner the support of the local community until his death in 2003. Last year, his work paid off when the clinic opened its doors for service.

As a tribute to Bud's work to support hometown health care for rural Washington state veterans, legislation has been introduced to name the clinic in Bud's honor. S. 1344 and H.R. 2245 have the strong support of the local community and are endorsed by the Washington state Chapters of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, the Disabled American Veterans, and the Vietnam Veterans of America.

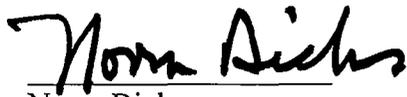
We respectfully ask that you schedule a vote on these important bills as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

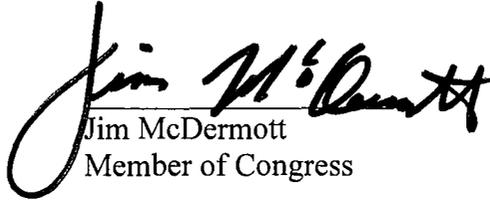

Patty Murray
United States Senator


Maria Cantwell
United States Senator


Doc Hastings
Member of Congress



Norm Dicks
Member of Congress



Jim McDermott
Member of Congress



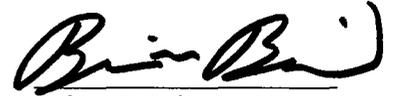
Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Jay Inslee
Member of Congress



Brian Baird
Member of Congress



Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Member of Congress



Dave Reichert
Member of Congress