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United States Senate

November 15, 2017

The Honorable David J. Shulkin
Secretary
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

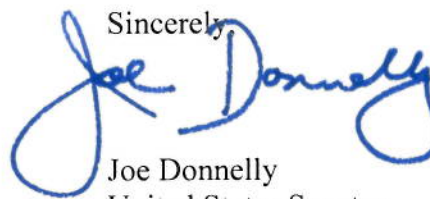
Dear Secretary Shulkin:

I am writing on behalf of my constituents who are Vietnam veterans with Agent Orange-related ailments, to express concern regarding your recent decision to continue the already years-long study of "new presumptive conditions for service connection that may ultimately qualify for disability compensation."

Our veterans deserve to know if bladder cancer, hypothyroidism, Parkinson-like tremors, and hypertension will be added to the list of presumptive conditions related to Agent Orange exposure. As you know, your department has been reviewing this matter for 18 months on top of the many months spent on the National Academy of Medicine's report on these conditions.

I urge you to make every appropriate effort, consistent with U.S. law and public policy, to quickly finalize the Department of Veterans Affairs' decision on the relationship between these conditions and Agent Orange exposure. As you know, this decision impacts an aging population of veterans who deserve certainty regarding their health care and benefits.

Thank you for your leadership, and please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Joe Donnelly
United States Senator