

January 7, 2020

The Honorable Donald J. Trump President of the United States of America The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am privileged to represent Orange and Jefferson Counties in the Texas House of Representatives. One of the greatest things about my district is the large population of veterans that I am able to represent. There are over 22,000 veterans who live in Orange and Jefferson Counties. Sadly, we are unable to properly care for our veterans in Southeast Texas because the nearest VA Medical Inpatient Hospital is over 100 miles away.

Fortunately, there are two plausible venue options available to establish a VA Medical Inpatient Hospital that would provide overdue assistance to our veterans in Southeast Texas: Baptist Orange Hospital and St. Mary Hospital in Port Arthur. I would like to request that you and your administration consider buying or leasing these properties to establish a VA hospital.

As you know, many military veterans are dependent on the Veterans Administration for their medical care. The difficulty and expense to travel to Houston or Baton Rouge medical facilities often make it challenging for many elderly and disabled veterans to take advantage of services at these facilities.

Veterans and their families have sacrificed so much for our country, and they desperately deserve proper medical care. I hope that you will consider my request, and I would be happy to assist you and your administration as you explore this opportunity.

Sincerely,

Dade Phelan