

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 20, 2022

The Honorable Jon Tester  
Chairman  
Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jerry Moran  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Tester and Ranking Member Moran,

We write in support of H.R. 3665, legislation to rename the San Diego Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center after U.S. Army CPT Jennifer M. Moreno and support the designation of a component within the facility in honor of U.S. Navy CAPT Kathleen M. Bruyere.

Women are the fastest growing group in the veteran population<sup>1</sup>, but only two of VA's health care facilities are named after women veterans. The 2020 Report of VA's Advisory Committee on Women Veterans recommended renaming undedicated VA facilities to honor women veterans, stating this would provide an outward recognition of their sacrifices and promote VA's efforts to transform its culture.<sup>2</sup> VA agreed with the recommendation but noted that it cannot be implemented without congressional action, as 38 U.S.C. 531 prohibits the renaming of entire VA facilities except as expressly provided by law.

In November 2020, a panel of San Diego area servicemembers, veterans, and other community leaders recommended naming the San Diego VA Medical Center after Moreno, a highly-decorated combat veteran from San Diego who was killed in action when she ran to help a wounded soldier during a deployment to Afghanistan, and a prominent space within the facility after Bruyere, a longtime San Diego resident who helped shape the military's policies on sexual discrimination and was instrumental in expanding opportunities for women in the Navy. Both women clearly meet the committee's standards for this honor, having performed military service of an extraordinarily distinguished character.

We hope that you will swiftly advance H.R. 3665 to recognize these deserving women veterans and, by extension, countless veterans whose service has gone unrecognized for far too long.

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<sup>1</sup> Department of Veterans Affairs, [https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/docs/WomenVeteransFactSheet101216\\_508.pdf](https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/docs/WomenVeteransFactSheet101216_508.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Department of Veterans Affairs, <https://www.va.gov/womenvet/docs/acwv/acwvReport2020.pdf>

Sincerely,



Mike Levin  
Member of Congress



Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator



Scott H. Peters  
Member of Congress



Darrell Issa  
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley  
Member of Congress



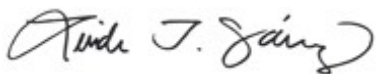
Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress



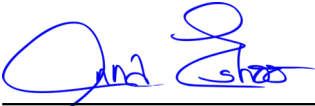
Mike Thompson  
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Linda T. Sánchez  
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Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



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Anna G. Eshoo  
Member of Congress



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Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



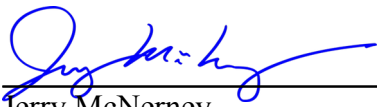
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Sara Jacobs  
Member of Congress



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Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress



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Jerry McNerney  
Member of Congress



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Karen Bass  
Member of Congress



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Zoe Lofgren  
Member of Congress



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Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress



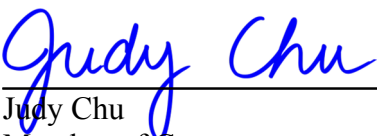
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Member of Congress



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Katie Porter  
Member of Congress



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Judy Chu  
Member of Congress

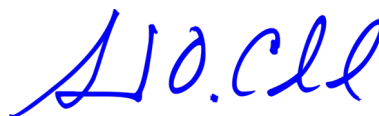


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J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress



Barbara Lee  
Member of Congress



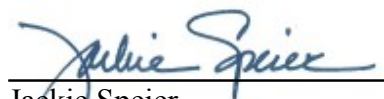
Salud Carbajal  
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Young Kim  
Member of Congress



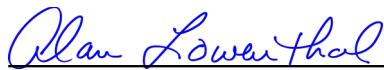
Tony Cárdenas  
Member of Congress



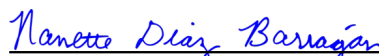
Jackie Speier  
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Lucille Roybal-Allard  
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Alan Lowenthal  
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Nanette Diaz Barragán  
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Eric Swalwell  
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Mark DeSaulnier  
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Grace F. Napolitano  
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Ted Lieu  
Member of Congress



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Josh Harder  
Member of Congress



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Jimmy Panetta  
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David G. Valadao  
Member of Congress



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Kevin McCarthy  
Member of Congress



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Norma J. Torres  
Member of Congress



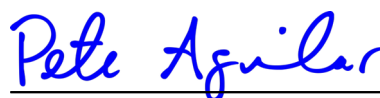
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Adam B. Schiff  
Member of Congress



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Maxine Waters  
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Pete Aguilar  
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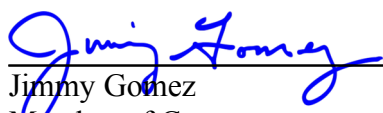
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Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



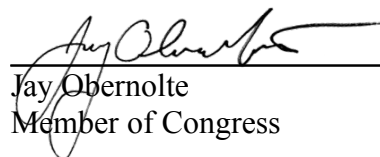
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Michelle Steel  
Member of Congress



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Jimmy Gomez  
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Jay Obernolte  
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Doug LaMalfa  
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Tom McClintock  
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Ken Calvert  
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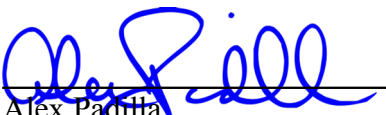
Raul Ruiz, M.D.  
Member of Congress



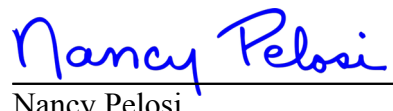
Mark Takano  
Member of Congress  
Chair, Committee on  
Veterans' Affairs



Mike Garcia  
Member of Congress



Alex Padilla  
United States Senator



Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House