

ANGIE CRAIG

2ND DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-2302

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INVESTIGATIONS, OVERSIGHT AND REGULATIONS

November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Mr. Gianrico Farrugia  
Chief Executive Officer  
Mayo Clinic  
200 First Street SW  
Rochester, MN 55905

Dear Mr. Farrugia,

I write to raise concerns about the barriers to care posed by Mayo Clinic's continued non-network provider status under TRICARE. I urgently ask Mayo Clinic to consider contracting with TRICARE as a network provider, giving more than 7,000 veterans in Wabasha and Goodhue Counties access to high-quality health care in their communities.

I frequently hear from veterans and active duty service members in my district about the challenges they face accessing quality health services. Minnesota's Second Congressional District is home to over 35,000 veterans and their families, many of whom rely on TRICARE coverage. In Wabasha and Goodhue Counties, we have over 7,000 veterans and one network provider. Military families must travel outside the community, often across state lines, to receive the care they need. For those with disabilities or limited access to transportation, the challenge is especially pronounced.

As the largest health care provider in the state, Mayo Clinic can significantly expand access to veterans and their families by accepting TRICARE. The network provider status would directly address two of the largest barriers to care: a limited provider network and geographic distance. For veterans in Wabasha and Goodhue Counties, travel time to the nearest doctor would be reduced to minutes. I recognize that Mayo Clinic's best-in-class providers and facilities already serve thousands of veterans and their families. My hope is that you will continue to build on those efforts to deliver care to some of our state's most honorable residents.

As we work in Minnesota to ensure that the brave men and women who sacrificed for our country have the health care they need and deserve, I appreciate your swift consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Angie Craig  
Member of Congress