

Wayne Allard

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ALLARD/TANCREDO/HEFLEY LEAD EFFORT FOR COMPREHENSIVE VETERANS HEALTH CENTER

WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO), and Colorado U.S. Representatives Tom Tancredo and Joel Hefley are leading a delegation effort this week to expedite a partnership between the Fitzsimons Veterans Nursing home, the Denver Veterans Affairs Medical Center (a VA medical facility) and the University of Colorado, benefitting more than 150,000 veterans in metropolitan Denver.

In a letter sent to Secretary of Veterans Affairs Anthony Principi, seven members of the delegation offered their support for the project and asked what can be done to expedite the process.

"This (Fitzsimons Veterans Health Center) could serve as a nationwide model of cooperation and will allow the Department of Veterans Affairs the flexibility to move in new and exciting directions," the letter stated.

Under the partnership, veterans would have access to the CU/VA Hospital, the Anschutz Centers for Advanced Medicine's Cancer Pavilion and Outpatient Pavilion, the Rocky Mountain Lion's Eye Institute and the Ben Nighthorse Campbell Native American Health Building.

"This project has the possibility of creating the premiere veterans healthcare facility in the nation," said Allard. "Colorado veterans deserve the best possible care and I am going to continue to fight for that quality healthcare."

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"As I told Secretary Principi in Colorado last April, this is a win/win for all involved," Tancredo said. "Most importantly, this will provide Colorado veterans with the finest medical care our community can offer, a luxury they have earned and deserve."

"Combining the resources of Fitzsimons and the Denver Veterans Affairs Medical Center is an excellent idea whose time has arrived," Hefley said. "This new center will be the preeminent health care facility for our regions' veterans and will one day serve as a model for the rest of the country."

On April 23rd, Secretary Principi toured Fitzsimons and participated in a panel discussion on the possible move of the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Denver to the Aurora campus.

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