

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

October 6, 2023

The Honorable Denis R. McDonough
Secretary of the Department of Veteran Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Secretary McDonough,

We are writing this letter in response to training, which promotes “reproductive health”, that is being provided to VA staff. We are very concerned with this guidance and, in general, a partisan agenda within the VA that strays from your Department’s intended scope and mission.

For example, the reproductive health training being provided to VA employees not only encourages and affirms abortion procedures, but also contradicts biological reality and the scientific consensus that there are only two genders: male and female. It is deeply troubling that such training materials would be disseminated within an institution responsible for the well-being of our veterans.

Specifically, your training materials:

- Inform VA employees how to get an abortion;
- Encourage pregnant “individuals” to receive abortions;
- Encourage doctors to normalize feelings of women seeking an abortion;
- Ask VA employees not to use the term baby, but instead “fetus”; and
- Ask VA employees not to congratulate pregnant women.

In light of the VA’s guidance, we have several questions that require your immediate attention and response:

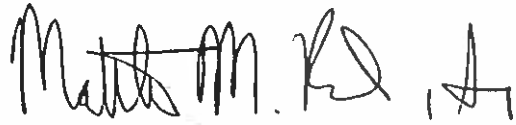
1. Do you believe it is the duty of the Department of Veterans Affairs to provide training to its employees on subjects that are unrelated to the healthcare and support of our veterans?
2. Can you confirm whether the VA is indeed providing training to its employees on addressing pregnant women, including the assertion that men can become pregnant?
 - a. If so, could you provide details regarding the scope, content of this training, and facts the VA has to support this claim?
3. Who instructed the development and dissemination of these training materials within the VA, and what is their rationale for including such contentious and scientifically unsupported information?
4. How does the VA plan to ensure that it remains an A-political institution that respects the beliefs held by its employees and the veterans it serves?
5. What steps will the VA take to refocus its efforts on providing the best possible healthcare and support services to our veterans, rather than engaging in divisive and controversial ideological pursuits?

We urge you to immediately review the training materials in question and take appropriate action to rectify this situation. It is imperative that the VA maintains its focus on providing top-notch healthcare and support services to our veterans, rather than engaging in divisive and controversial ideological pursuits.

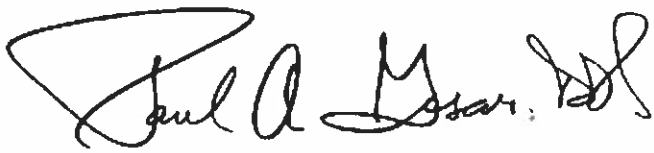
Sincerely,



Eli Crane
Member of Congress



Matthew Rosendale, Sr.
Member of Congress



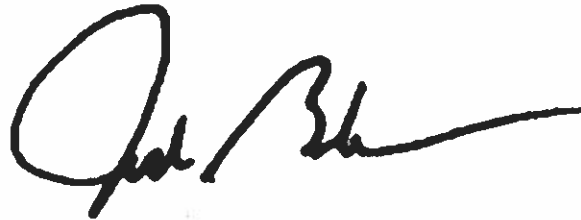
Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



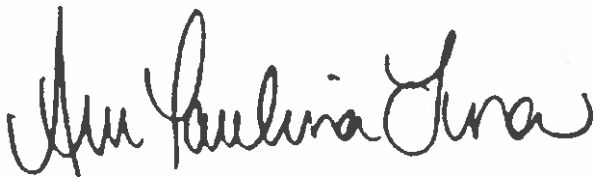
Mary E. Miller
Member of Congress



Michael Cloud
Member of Congress



Josh Brecheen
Member of Congress



Anna Paulina Luna
Member of Congress



Bob Good
Member of Congress