



Media Release

Monroe County Democratic Caucus

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County Democrats Urge Prompt Action Regarding Walter Reed

Returning Troops Deserve Better Health Care

Rochester, New York – March 7, 2007: Monroe County Legislator Steve Eckel (D-Rochester) has submitted a resolution to the County Legislature that calls on the U.S. Congress and President Bush to take immediate action to solve the problems at the nation's top army hospital.

"I was shocked to hear of the reports of mold and rodent infestations at Walter Reed," said Legislator Eckel, "Before we commit our troops to battle, it is imperative that we ensure that we are able to support them when they return home."

Legislator Willie Lightfoot (D-Rochester), the Legislature's only veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom, is a co-sponsor of the resolution. "The Federal Government is failing to provide for these young men and women, and subjecting them to an elaborate bureaucracy before they can receive services they have rightly earned is deplorable," said Lightfoot.

Resolution sponsors are asking colleagues to join them in demanding that the U.S. Congress and President George W. Bush do all within their authority to immediately improve the conditions at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Copy of memorializing resolution is attached (2 pages).

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