

*July 9, 2009*

Washington, D.C. – Today, a bill authored by Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) to address the need for better care for veterans with traumatic brain injury (TBI) has passed the House Subcommittee on Veterans' Health Care. McNerney said the bill is a critical step in ensuring that our veterans receive the care they need.

“Many of our soldiers who have been wounded in Iraq have experienced a traumatic brain injury. In fact, more than 2 million of our veterans have TBI. It is our responsibility to ensure that the Veterans Administration is equipped and ready to provide the care they need.”

The bill, H.R. 1546, the Caring for Veterans with Traumatic Brain Injury Act of 2009, will establish a special program for veterans with TBI. In addition, H.R. 1546 will help establish TBI-specific education and training programs for the VA's health care providers.

“Our men and women in uniform have put their lives on the line,” said Rep. McNerney. “It is critical that we take steps to ensure that they receive the care they need.”

H.R. 1546 is expected to now move to consideration by the full House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.