

Lodi News-Sentinel

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Rep. Jerry McNerney, D-Pleasanton, and four other congressmen say that there is no indication of progress in helping troops and veterans with their mental health care.

The congressmen noted that little progress has been made since Congress approved Senate Bill 1963, which requires the Veterans Administration to establish a program on readjustment and mental health care for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans by November 2010.

McNerney and his colleagues requested that Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki provide an updated report on steps the VA is taking to provide mental health care for current troops and veterans, difficulties the agency is facing and an expected date for establishing the program.

Also signing the letter are Reps. Bob Filner, D-San Diego, Bill Johnson, R-Ohio, Mike Michaud, D-Maine, and Phil Roe, R-Tennessee.