October 9, 2009

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) voted yesterday to improve veterans' health services by ensuring timely funding for the Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA). H.R. 1016, the Veterans Health Care Budget Reform and Transparency Act, authorizes Congress to approve veterans' medical care funding one year in advance of its use.

This change will allow the Department of Veterans Affairs a full year to better anticipate and plan for health care services, including those offered at nearby facilities such as the hospital in Livermore and outpatient facility at French Camp.

"Our men and women in uniform put their lives on the line for our country," said Rep. McNerney. "It is our responsibility to ensure that they receive the proper care and treatment they've earned. This legislation will help ensure our veterans have full access to quality health care without delays."

Over 40 groups, including the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans and the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, support this legislation.

The Veterans Health Care Budget Reform and Transparency Act now awaits final passage by the Senate.