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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3303

December 17, 2013

The Honorable Jonathan Woodson
Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs
1400 Defense Pentagon
Room 3D886
Washington, DC 20301-1400

Dear Assistant Secretary Woodson:

I am deeply concerned about Tricare's recent decision to close the walk-in Tricare Service Centers in my district. I realize this is a cost cutting move and it may be a good decision for those bases where centers have a low usage rate. However, those facilities in my district have a significant number of visitors each year.

For example, the usage rate for the Tricare Service Center at Camp Lejeune last year was over 41K and this year it will be over 35K. It plays an invaluable role in helping my constituents with their medical claims, enrollment issues and a myriad of other Tricare administrative matters. It is especially helpful for dependents of service members residing in the third district. Additionally, the Tricare Service Center at Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point has a high usage rate with over 15K people using it this year alone due to the large number of military dependents and retirees who live in that area.

I am requesting you take into consideration the annual activity of each facility and not close those facilities with high usage to include Camp Lejeune and Cherry Point. Thank you very much for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,



Walter B. Jones
Member of Congress

Cc: Senator Burr; Senator Hagan