

THE ASSEMBLY STATE OF NEW YORK ALBANY

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER Committee on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse

COMMITTEES
Judiciary
Environmental Conservation
Housing
Social Services

March 28, 2022

Honorable Kathy Hochul Governor of New York State New York State Capitol, Executive Chamber Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul:

I write this letter urging you to take action regarding the future of the Northport VA Hospital on Long Island, which provides health care services to at least 30,000 Veterans in our communities.

The Asset and Infrastructure Review Commission wants to eliminate inpatient, emergency and rehabilitation services. These proposals have been made without consulting leaders on Long Island and in our Veteran community. Moving certain services to St. Albans in New York City forces many Veterans to travel long distances, making the process of receiving medical services difficult and time consuming. The Northport VA Hospital is the only VA Hospital in Suffolk County and eliminating and reducing a majority of these services will prevent many Veterans from getting access to important medical treatment they need. It is imperative that we hold public hearings to obtain public input from our local community members.

On behalf of our Veterans please reject this proposal and instead I urge you to meet with our leaders on Long Island to discuss alternative solutions to this issue. Without the sacrifices of our Veterans we would not have a Unites States of America and our Veterans deserve better health care services, not less. Therefore, it is our moral duty as elected officials to return them the favor. They fought for us then, we fight for them now. I trust you will do what is right for our Veterans by opposing these proposals.

I would welcome the opportunity to speak with you to find alternative solutions that will put a greater emphasis on the well-being of Veterans.

Sincerely,

Hon. Keith P. Brown

Assemblyman, 12th District