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MESSAGE FROM VA'S SECRETARY

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THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON

November 15, 2022



I am proud to present the United States Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Agency Financial Report. This report provides financial and performance information demonstrating our commitment to fiscal transparency and responsibility as we honor President Lincoln's promise to care for those "who shall have borne the battle" and for their families and survivors.

Veterans who were exposed to toxic fumes while fighting for our country deserve and have earned world class care and benefits. The bipartisan Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act acknowledges these sacrifices by expanding health care and benefits for Veterans exposed to burn pits and other toxic substances. The PACT Act will empower VA to provide care and benefits to those suffering from more than 20 toxic exposure-related conditions. Implementing legislation of this magnitude is not easy, but I know our teams will rise to the challenge for Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors.

Financial accountability and stewardship mean that we use the resources entrusted to us in a responsible manner. I am pleased to report VA received its 24th consecutive unmodified audit opinion from independent public accounting firm CliftonLarsonAllen for the FY 2022 financial statement audit. While I celebrate this accomplishment, I am also mindful that we must continue to address the material weaknesses, significant deficiencies and noncompliance identified by the auditors. Information on audit findings and our remediation efforts are detailed in the Management's Statement of Assurance.

I am also pleased that the Partnership for Public Service has named VA one of the top five best places to work in the Federal Government. The annual rankings measure employee engagement and satisfaction, providing leaders with a roadmap to better manage our most important asset – our employees. During FY 2022, the Department implemented a human infrastructure plan aimed to make every VA job a good job. VA strives to be a model employer by treating its workforce with dignity and respect, while providing competitive salary and benefits and challenging and rewarding work. The morale of our workforce has a direct impact on Veteran care. Investing in our people results in improved care and outcomes for the Veterans we serve.

Sincerely,

(/s/) Denis McDonough