

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

November 15, 2007

Ms. Pamela Fisher
Contracting/ Grant Officer
Department of the Army
US Medical Research Acquisition Activity
820 Chandler Street
Fort Detrick, MD 21702 - 6014

Dear Ms. Fisher:

We are writing to request that the Department of the Army consider the application, "Proposal to Conduct a Two-Part Study on Stellate Ganglion Block and Pulsed Radio Frequency to Relieve Post Traumatic Stress Disorder in Military Personnel," submitted by Dr. Eugene Lipov and supported by Northwest Community Hospital in Illinois. This application proposes research into potential new treatment methods for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

As you know, there is a growing body of evidence to suggest that PTSD is affecting a growing number of our heroic service members returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. We have both worked in the Senate to strengthen the quality of mental health care provided by the US Armed Forces and the Veterans Administration (VA), and we continue to support important new investments in the screening and treatment of PTSD and Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBIs). We believe that PTSD and other forms of combat stress, anxiety and depression will require ongoing support and counseling for those with such diagnoses as well as their loved ones. At the same time we believe it is important to consider any new approaches that may hold potential for helping our service members get the care they need.

While we leave the evaluation of the merits of this particular proposal to the judgment of the selection committee, we appreciate your ongoing commitment to improving mental health care for our service members.

Sincerely,



Barack Obama
United States Senator



Richard Durbin
United States Senator