

**House Committee on Veterans' Affairs
Rep. Doug Lamborn**

Remarks

**Legislative Hearing on H.R. 3216, H.R. 4150, H.R. 4764, H.R. 5047, H.R. 5083,
H.R. 5162, H.R. 5166, H.R. 5392, H.R. 5407, H.R. 5416, H.R. 5420,
and H.R. 5428**

**June 23, 2016
10:30 a.m.**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

I ask Members to support H.R. 5416, which would help the families of deceased veterans who received care through the Choice program. .

Currently, the family of a deceased veteran who passed away in a non-VA hospital that is under contract, is given a burial allowance of \$747. However, if the veteran dies while receiving healthcare at a non-VA facility under the Choice program, the family is only provided a \$300 burial allowance.

Mr. Chairman, it is not fair that families are penalized if a veteran uses the Choice program. Veterans should be able to participate in the Choice program without having to worry about the financial impact on their loved ones. My bill, H.R. 5416, would correct this inequity and allow families of veterans in the Choice program to qualify for a \$747 burial allowance.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and yield back.