

Questions for the Record

House Committee on Veterans' Affairs

Subcommittee on Health

“Dignity Denied: The Case for Reform at State Veterans Homes”

April 29, 2025

Questions for Ms. Sharon Silas, Director, Healthcare, U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO)

Chairwoman Mariannette Miller-Meeks (IA)

1. What is the importance of U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' (V.A.) oversight in state veterans homes?
2. It has been observed that COVID-19 was devastating for all, but that there were acute issues in some state veterans homes. What did GAO observe of V.A.'s oversight during the pandemic?
3. The state veterans home program falls under V.A.'s Office of Geriatric and Extended Care (GEC). What has GAO observed of GEC's oversight, and does GAO recommend greater GEC-led involvement so that V.A. can meet GAO's recommendations?
4. What are GAO's recommendations to improve how V.A. collects and analyzes data from annual inspections? Are those recommendations implemented?