

Congressman Paul Ryan
1233 Longworth Building
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Time For A Change/Term Limits

Dear Congressman Ryan:

I am addressing this letter to you, in part, because of your elected position as a member of the House and because of your position on the Budget Committee. I could address this letter to any member of Congress as I believe they are, for the most part, in lockstep. Based on the position you hold in the House, I perceive you to be the biggest threat to the security of our Country at this time. You hold a unique position in the House which permits you to propose the budget for the operation of the government, a budget which you know the Senate will never pass. I am also addressing this, in part, to the citizens of South Dakota as whatever action you take inevitably affects South Dakotans.

You made a comment to the effect that twenty (20) years of military service and a lifetime of retirement is not sustainable. What you didn't say is that after only five years in Congress, you can retire with a lifetime retirement with annual cost of living pay increases. You also didn't say that you earn - - - not earn - - - receive a salary of \$174,000.00 per year plus benefits. Congressman Ryan, even though a military person may retire after 20 years of service, during that 20 years, he/she may have been deployed 4-5 times, if not more. If they survive the deployments they may return to a spouse who couldn't wait for his or her return and engaged in an affair. That accounts for some of the murder/suicides involving our returning veterans. Others return without a job, depressed, suffering from PTSD and some commit suicide. Far too many return with missing limbs, TBI, or other severe injuries.

You only have to look back at the last Inaugural Address given by President Obama and remember the Veteran who was setting next to Michelle Obama. It appeared to me that he had sustained serious combat injuries. Mrs. Obama had to help that poor Veteran get to his feet. You stood by and applauded him for his sacrifice after which you went back to the drawing board to continue your scheme to reduce his benefits, monetary and otherwise. Does your memory reach back that far? You have no vision for the future or what's best for the Country, and if your recent memory is somewhat fuzzy then you need to resign from the House and try to get your old job back flipping hamburgers at McDonalds.

I served 2 years in Vietnam but we didn't have to deal with the roadside bombs that today's military has to deal with when deployed. I returned home with all of my body parts intact. That is not always true for our combat veterans of today.

Here in Yankton, we have a combat Veteran who is totally blind. He gets around his home by clinging to his daughter's shoulders. She will not stay young forever. She will grow up, get married, have a family of her own and then where will that leave the disabled Veteran? His wife will care for him as long as possible, but after that he will wind up in a VA Nursing Home. There he will die, like so many other wounded Veterans who proudly served their country and came home in need of so much medical care only to have it denied to them, to have their retirement and cost of living reduced by individuals such as you, an individual who receives \$174,000.00 per year with an annual cost of living increase of 5% (except during election years).

I personally do not know of one single individual who earns \$174,000.00 per year. In the case of Congress, there are actually those who believe they are underpaid!! If they believe they are underpaid, let them resign and return to the private sector and see what it is really like to actually have to work for a living. I believe that Congress, as a whole, presents the biggest danger/threat to the citizens of the United States.

In one of your budgets, you attempted to decimate Medicare. When I receive my Medicare statement, I am surprised that any doctor would take Medicare patients. If I spend an hour with my doctor, some Medicare bureaucrat with all of his or her infinite wisdom, declares that the average office visit is 15 minutes when in fact it takes about 10 minutes for the nurses to take your vitals, ascertain the nature of your concern and put you in the doctor's office. The doctor goes over your medical history and will normally order labs. In a day or so, he sends you a letter with the results of the lab work and makes any necessary changes to your medication. The office visit is usually at least one hour, but at times more than that. Yet, he gets paid for 80% of a 15 minute Medicare established policy. If you have your way,

Congressman Ryan, someday the doctors will stop taking Medicare patients all together.

You don't have to go through that procedure do you Congressman Ryan? Don't you and your staff members receive free or subsidized health care? If you have a health issue don't you go to Walter Reed where you are treated free of charge?

Then there is the matter of Social Security Benefits. How much money has Congress stolen from the Social Security Trust Fund? Are you and your colleagues ever going to pay it back? If so, when? Will interest be paid on the Social Security funds stolen by Congress? Shouldn't 10% of all of the salaries of all of the members of Congress be placed in the Social Security trust fund until it is restored to its proper balance? It appears as though we are a nation governed by crooks, incompetents and fossils. Senator McCain is a fossil, Senator Reed is a fossil. They should resign or be voted out of office. It is truly time for a change and that change should start in Washington, DC and move right down to the Governor's mansions, the counties and the cities. No one at any level should serve more than 2 terms in office. Period.

You pretend that you and your band of incompetents are concerned about the deficit. Yet you continue to increase the deficit by your inexplicable decisions. The members of the House didn't even have the courage to register their last vote on the ACA. The alleged conservative members of the House had a voice vote on that issue so the public wouldn't be able to identify the cowards in the House by name.

The Speaker of the House should go back to Ohio and never run for reelection. If he does run, he should be defeated. If he is reelected, he should not be the Speaker of the House. The Founders never intended to have career politicians. Limited government was their plan. I don't think any member of the House or Senate has any concept of limited government or how to govern this Country. They are not good trustees of the tax dollars we send to Washington. I could ask, and I may ask, this same question to others members of the House and would probably get 435 different answers but:

1. What is the total annual budget for you and your staff?
2. How many members do you have on your staff in Washington, DC?
3. How many staff members do you have in various cities in Wisconsin?
4. Do you really need that many staff members?
5. Couldn't you and the other members of Congress help reduce the deficit by reducing the number of the members of your staff?

I am enclosing a copy of the latest VFW magazine which I just received. You see, I served in the military, a privilege you will never know. In the enclosed magazine, one of the articles written therein is about five (5) members of a Recon Unit who were killed in one fell swoop. The article goes on to provide information about the families of the five dead soldiers. You should read it, but you won't. Perhaps one of your minions will glance through it and send me a letter thanking me for my concerns about the Veterans.

You should visit Ft. Hood, Congressman Ryan or some other military facility or VA Hospital and see firsthand the carnage of war. Then you should thank the Veterans for their service and their sacrifices and apologize to them for your effort to reduce the size of the military, reduce the pay for the military, reduce the cost of living for the retired Veterans and the future Veterans who will be retired, and after that, Congressman Ryan, you should return to Washington and resign. You and the other members of Congress have caused enough harm to this Country.

I do agree with your means-tested philosophy as to benefits for the retired, if it applies equally to members of Congress and their staff. Should a General receive a cost of living increase? Isn't their salary and free health care enough to meet their needs? Should a retired General who receives between \$150,000.00 and \$200,000.00 annually receive the same cost of living increase as the disabled combat Veteran in Yankton who may receive, probably, \$2,000.00 a month? The system is flawed and you know it. Yet you do nothing about it. If not more we have a lot of seniors and Veterans who vote. Hopefully Wisconsin has the same and should you fail to resign, which you will never do, you should be voted out of office. In my opinion you are the primary reason Governor Mitt Romney lost the election for President. I will never understand his reasons for believing that you could truly bring anything to the Ticket.

Finally, in this year, the people of this Country have the option of making major changes in the House and Senate. Hopefully they will not let that opportunity pass them by. To me it does not

make any difference if a member of Congress is a Republican, Democrat or Independent. What matters to me is that they work for the American people, act in the best interest of the people and serve no more than two elected terms. We do not need career politicians such as yourself.

In truth, every incompetent, corrupt, hypocritical, parasite in any legislative branch of government from top to bottom, from the White House to City Hall should be thrown out of office after a limited time in public office. Better to have a sign in the chair that reads "out to lunch" rather than have an incompetent person attempting to play political games with the taxpayers' money. To serve in an elected position should be a privilege, not a career. We need term limits and we actually have them - - the voting booth. Term limits should mean term limits, not 8 years in the House and then 8 years in the Senate and then 8 years in the House ad nauseam, as we have in South Dakota. No one, at any level, should serve more than 2 terms in public office.

After every war or conflict the military forces are down-sized (reduction in force). Then when another conflict erupts in some part of the world, the politicians activate the reserves and the National Guard and send them off to war after which we have Combat Veterans returning home with TBI, missing limbs, blind, with no employment, and contemplating suicide because they are so depressed. Congressman Ryan will, in all likelihood, attempt to deny them medical services they need and reduce whatever disability benefits they are paid - - - they have earned. There are many American soldiers who have been deployed for up to 11 times. How can that be possible and then come home and have people like Congressman Ryan attempt to reduce their benefits? Why doesn't he reduce his benefits? After all, after 5 years he can retire with a lifetime retirement having made no significant contribution to the American people or to the United States.

Americans generally have short memories, at least in my opinion. This may be the one exception. We have an administration which is corrupt, a Congress which is inept and elected officials who don't seem to get it. We, the PEOPLE, need to stand up and be counted. We can, nationwide, replace one-third of the members of the Senate this year, if deemed appropriate, and all of the members of the House, nationwide, if deemed appropriate. It won't happen, of course, but many Senators and many members of the House should be thrown out of office. Again, we need term limits.

You know, it is simply time for a change. Think about term limits, think about change, and think about the good of the American people. How long has the Minority Leader served in the Legislature in Pierre? How long has the Majority Leader served in the Legislature in Pierre? And now, they want the South Dakota Legislature to abolish term limits totally! The people of South Dakota are smarter than that and smart enough to throw out the incompetent politicians that we presently have in Pierre. They are a danger to everything good that South Dakota stands for.

Congratulations to the folks in Pierre for dealing with the serious issues of "squaw and negro". Great-great stuff. Also, for taking care of the fishermen so they won't have to lie about who caught what fish or how many fish. I simply cannot believe that the Legislators have nothing better to do. I guess next year they will probably struggle with what to do about "Snatch Creek" in Bon Homme County. One of the members of the Legislature said that it takes 8 years to figure out just what is going on in Pierre. If it takes that long to figure out what is going on, then perhaps they shouldn't be there at all.

The members of the House and Senate in Pierre should get a life. Go back to the private sector after 2 terms. If he/she can't make it in the private sector, he/she can get free food, maybe with a little mildew if it is from the food pantry in the Yankton County Administration building. Perhaps they can also get food stamps. Such a deal.

Please do not let this opportunity pass us by. It is too important for the American people. I wish all the politicians would have a long and happy and healthy life, but in the private sector.

With best personal regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,
Robert L. Chavis
Yankton, SD 57078

Enclosure
pc: Senator John Thune
Representative Kristi Noem
Sioux Falls Argus Leader
Pierre Capital Journal
Rapid City Journal
Wisconsin State Journal

Paid For By Bob Chavis - Yankton, South Dakota

Irene

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"Quiet" room for sensory activities and behavior de-escalation.

"We decided to provide this service because we saw a great opportunity to serve a segment of the population that is greatly underserved," he said. "It's important for us to be responsive to market demands, and there is a significant demand for this service."

The challenging behavior unit will operate separately from the rest of the Irene campus. The new unit will take ad-

vantage of the main kitchen and dietary department for meals.

State officials approached facilities about giving up nursing home beds to create challenging behavior units, said Director of Nursing Staci Binde.

"This (unit) will house a very diversified group of people," she said. "It's a step-down unit, where patients get ready to transition out to their homes or to a traditional long-term care facility."

The change at the Irene facility has been in the works for more than a year, Breidenbach said.

"The concept of Sunshine Terrace began in late 2012, and we were finally approved to begin the project in July 2013,"

he said. "Once the plans were established and approved, renovations began in February of this year."

As part of the renovations, five rooms in the wing were torn out and converted into the dining room and living room, Breidenbach said. "We have finally come to the end of the project and we are looking forward to opening Monday," he said.

The initial admissions call for two residents Monday, followed by two more Tuesday and one more Wednesday, according to Tallie Cassanova, who works with admissions and referrals. The unit should be filled May 28, then develop a waiting list.

The Irene facility works

with the state Department of Social Services in determining placement of residents and also their discharge plan when they are ready to move into other living arrangements, Cassanova said.

Breidenbach said the initial residents will come mostly from the Human Services Center in Yankton.

The design and opening of the challenging behavior unit has become a partnership, Breidenbach said.

"The unit was designed in collaboration with Avera Behavioral Health and the Human Services Center. It is a remodel designed to be a distinct unit to create a safe, homelike area with low stimulation to help us more effectively manage more

volatile behaviors," he said.

"We will be offering a wide array of activities designed to engage our residents and manage behaviors through recreational therapy. The general categories of activities we offer include social, cognitive, movement, sensory and creative."

Sunset Manor Avera has added 17 new staff members for its Sunshine Terrace site, Breidenbach said.

Sunshine Terrace has hired additional registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, certified nurse assistants, restorative aides and recreational advocates, Breidenbach said.

"We are fully staffed and ready to go for the start of the unit," he said.

Recreation advocate Sandi Stratton said she will combine a number of activities in serving residents' needs.

"We offer one-to-one care each day," she said. "We also have group activities both inside and outside of the facility. They could enjoy fishing, nature walks and visits to farms. We also plan to have groups come in from various youth organizations who will give presentation or programs for earning Merit badges or other projects. It's all part of our giving back to the community."

You can follow Randy Dockendorf on Twitter at twitter.com/rdockendorf. Discuss this story at www.yankton.net.