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United States Senate

September 20, 2016

The Honorable Robert A. McDonald
Secretary
United States Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Secretary McDonald:

I am writing in regard to the intended construction of a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) national cemetery in Indianapolis, where the creation of columbaria is planned on the north side of Crown Hill Cemetery.

I am proud of the men and women who have served our country, and one of my top priorities in Congress is to ensure veterans are honored with the care and respect they deserve. As such, I appreciate the VA's decision to select Indianapolis as a national cemetery site to serve tens of thousands of Hoosier veterans and their families in Central Indiana.

The successful completion of this project, however, will require sufficient input both from veterans as well as the local community. As plans for the columbarium cemetery progress, I ask that you continue to engage with all Hoosiers and listen to their thoughts and concerns about construction of the memorial. Thank you for your continued commitment to our nation's veterans. Please reach out to my office if we may provide any assistance.

Sincerely,



Joe Donnelly
United States Senator

cc: Colonel Christopher G. Beck, Commander, Louisville District Army Corps of Engineers
Mr. Glenn Madderom, Chief of Cemetery Development and Improvement Service,
National Cemetery Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs
Mr. John Kays, Crown Hill Project Manager, National Cemetery Administration,
Department of Veterans Affairs