

Congressman Mike Quigley

Fiscal Year 2014 programmatic for the Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veteran Affairs, and Related Agencies

Support President's request for funding for **Medical and Prosthetic Research**

**Explanation:** Colorectal cancer is treatable if detected early, yet it is the second leading cause of cancer death in America. The Veterans Administration has made it a priority to screen patients for colorectal cancer, yet 20 percent receive no screening and 42 percent receive no colonoscopy. One of the primary reasons colorectal cancer is not detected early, is that more than 50 percent of the eligible population decline the current widely used test for colorectal cancer due to the level of invasiveness and high costs. The NCI estimates the total cost of colorectal cancer will be \$47 billion by 2020 and the Veterans Administration and Medicare will be responsible for 70 percent of that cost. Additional funding is needed to research and development of a less costly, less invasive, more widely used blood test for colorectal cancer in order to save lives and reduce costs.

\$20 million for suicide prevention and outreach for the **National Guard and Army Reserves.**

**Explanation:** According to the Veterans Administration, an estimated 18 veterans complete suicide every day – over 6,500 every year. These funds will support essential intervention programs that will help bring down the number of suicides among our service members.

\$300 million for the **Supportive Services for Veterans and their Families**

**Explanation:** The SSVF program provides supportive services to very low-income Veteran families living in or transitioning to permanent housing. Veterans received much-needed services ranging from health care, to legal services, to child care services, and personal financial planning services, needed to help them get back on their feet and return to a productive civilian life.