



Doug Collins Confirmed as Secretary of Veterans Affairs



Doug Collins at his Confirmation Hearing. Photo Courtesy of AP News

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Senate overwhelmingly voted this week to confirm former Representative Doug Collins of Georgia to be the next Secretary of Veterans Affairs. He will lead the largest department in the federal government, and will oversee healthcare, education, cemetery, and social services for our nation's 15.8 million veterans.

At his confirmation hearing with the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, Collins faced questions from both sides of the aisle on how he would tackle the variety of issues the VA faces. This included the vastly overbudget and delayed Electronic Medical Record project, staffing at VA medical centers, lack of access to community care, and potential rollbacks for abortion counseling and services. He also informed the committee that mental health resources and suicide prevention would be among his top priorities. He received a vote of 18-1 from the committee, demonstrating his strong bipartisan support.

Prior to his confirmation, Doug Collins, a Republican, served as a representative from Georgia's 9th congressional district from 2013-2021. He also ran unsuccessfully for Senator in the 2020 election. He is currently an active-duty Colonel in the Air Force Reserves, serving as a chaplain.