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**Luther S. Olsen**  
State Senator  
14th District

August 24, 2016

Sen. Robert Cowles, Co-Chair  
Joint Audit Committee  
118 South, State Capitol

Rep. Samantha Kerkman, Co-Chair  
Joint Audit Committee  
315 North, State Capitol

Dear Senator Cowles and Representative Kerkman,

I write to request that the Joint Legislative Audit Committee direct the Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB) to conduct an audit of the operations of the Wisconsin Veterans Home at King. The LAB has not audited the veterans homes since 2011 (report 11-3), and several concerns specific to the home at King have been brought to my attention recently.

I would like the LAB to consider the following questions:

- How has the percentage of residents at King with more acute medical, mental health, and behavioral care needs changed over the last five years?
- If a higher percentage of residents has more acute medical, mental health, or behavioral care needs, what training has been provided to staff to address the needs of such residents?
- What additional types of training would benefit staff and better equip them to deal with residents who have more acute care needs?
- Are there staff shortages at King and, if so, in what areas? What strategies have been implemented to address staff shortages if there are shortages?
- What is the staff turnover rate at King over the last 10 years?
- What is the level of staff satisfaction with employment and working conditions at King?
- What is the level of satisfaction among residents' family members with the care provided at King?
- What concerns have been brought to King's ombudsman over the last two years and what actions have been taken in response to these concerns?
- Over the last two years, how many times has law enforcement been called to address a resident issue? What types of incidents have resulted in a call to law enforcement?
- What is the condition of the King facility, including the furnishings and equipment?
- How is the home at King funded, what are the annual expenditures for King, and to what extent is revenue from King transferred to the Veterans Trust Fund? How does the current amount transferred affect the condition of the facility or the care provided to its residents?
- Have all recommendations from LAB's past audits of veterans homes been fully implemented? If not, what issues are outstanding and why?



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14th District

I believe an audit of the home at King by the nonpartisan LAB would provide the Legislature with important information on the care of some of Wisconsin's most vulnerable veterans, and I would welcome the analysis. Please contact me with any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Luther S. Olsen".

Senator Luther Olsen

Cc: Joe Chrisman, State Auditor