

[Ahwatukee Foothills News](#)

U.S. Rep. Harry Mitchell today called on President Barack Obama to kill a plan to bill veteran's private health insurance for combat injuries.

Mitchell, who represents Ahwatukee Foothills, along with Representatives Glenn Nye (D-Va.), Anne Kirkpatrick (D-Ariz.) and 57 of their colleagues, wrote to President Obama in opposition to the proposal.

"We do not give our veterans health care - they earn it," Mitchell and his colleagues wrote. "And it would be unacceptable for the VA to ask our veterans to pay for the treatment of injuries received while serving our nation in uniform."

Mitchell and his colleagues warned that the proposal could harm veterans and their families in Arizona and across the country by jeopardizing their health care and employment opportunities through increased health care premiums. It may also potentially discourage employers from hiring veterans.

"We have a responsibility to our veterans," said Mitchell, who serves on the Committee on Veteran's Affairs and is chairman of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations. "Our veterans gave themselves in service to our country and it is our obligation to deliver the health care and benefits that they have earned and deserve."